Daily Report

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Near East & South Asia

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Arab-Israeli Talks

Israelis: U.S. Document Offers 'Basis To Work On'

TA3006184693 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1825 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Telephone interview with correspondent Arye Golan in Washington by anchorman Menashe Raz in the Jerusalem studio—live]

[Text] [Raz] Our correspondent Arye Golan is on the line from Washington, and he will report on the initial reactions to the U.S. document that was submitted to the Israeli and Palestinian delegations to the peace talks. Arye, good evening.

[Golan] Good evening, Menashe.

[Raz] Our delegates have already perused the document. Based on an initial reading, have you heard them say that the document is a breakthrough?

[Golan] It is hard to talk about a breakthrough at the moment, and the Israeli delegate who saw the document is none other than Elyaqim Rubinstein, the head of the delegation. At this point, he is the only one who has seen the full document. However, sources in the Israeli delegation told us that the oral and written ideas submitted by Dennis Ross to the Palestinians and the Israelis definitely constitute a serious basis to work on.

The initial reaction of the Israelis to the U.S. proposals and ideas is positive. Nevertheless, the Israeli sources added, they will be a serious basis to work on if the Palestinians react seriously to the ideas and do not try to turn every issue into a symbol.

At the same time, we should point out that not all of the clauses in the U.S. document are to Israel's or the Palestinians' liking, especially those referring to the very well-known problems of Jerusalem and the territorial jurisdiction of the self-government—two central Palestinian demands.

One may safely assume this evening that these two problems—Jerusalem and the jurisdiction—will be intensely discussed next week during the visit of Dennis Ross, Aaron Miller, Dan Kurtzer, and Martin Indyk to the Middle East.

[Raz] Arye, thank you very much and good night.

'Ashrawi: 'Strong Resentment' of Draft Document

JN0107063793 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Interview with Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman of the Palestinian delegation to the talks, by radio correspondent in Washington Hisham Milhim "this morning"—recorded]

[Text] ['Ashrawi] The delegation and the entire team believe that the U.S. draft document and ideas are not a good basis for the talks. It also contradicts the point of reference of the talks, Palestinian rights, and the Security Council resolutions that should be a basis for the talks. The document also contradicts the declared U.S. policy vis-a-vis the Middle East and the Palestine question—the policy that has been continuing since President Carter. So, our initial impression is strong resentment. We, therefore, do not believe that the document constitutes a qualitative shift. On the contrary, it might become an obstacle in the talks.

[Milhim] During the past three weeks, you informed the U.S. side of some Palestinian constants on Jerusalem and geographical jurisdiction. You said at a press conference today that if these, or some of these, constants are not included in any formula presented to the Palestinians, such a formula will not be a basis for peace. How do you explain the U.S. failure to understand the Palestinian demands that were made public?

['Ashrawi] We have always explained our demands. During this round of talks, there have been intensive negotiations with the U.S. side on these constants and essential issues. However, U.S. bias, its continuous readiness to accept Israeli stands and formulas, and perhaps, the U.S. Administration's weakness to confront Israeli demands and pressure have produced this situation. The U.S. side gave the Israelis the substance and denied Palestinian rights to these basic issues. The U.S. side only tried to make some changes in other secondary issues.

[Milhim] What is the next step? Will there be another meeting with the U.S. side before leaving Washington?

['Ashrawi] We have not made a decision on this yet. We will go to Tunis to discuss the draft in detail with the PLO and the leadership in Tunis. The final and official decision will be made in Tunis.

Al-'Allaf Explains Obstacle to Peace With Israel

TA3006175293 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 30 Jun 93 pp 1, 7

[Interview with Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation to the peace talks with Israel, by Salah al-Zuhaykah in Washington; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Zuhaykah] What point have things reached on the Syrian-Israeli track?

[Al-'Allaf] The Syrian-Israeli track is still colliding with the same obstacle as the other tracks, although in a different way. For example, the same obstacle confronting the Palestinian track and preventing it from making progress is that Israel thinks with the mentality of someone not committed to a full withdrawal from the territories occupied in 1967. This same mentality has hampered the Syrian track. Israel talks in a vague manner about withdrawal from the Golan Heights. It

does not undertake or commit itself to full withdrawal from the Golan Heights, as stipulated by Resolution 242 and the principle of land for peace. At the same time, Israel insists on imposing many preconditions, whether with regard to security arrangements, the nature of peace, or comprehensiveness. These things can under no circumstances be accepted because they contravene the bases of the terms of reference of the peace process and the provisions of Resolutions 242 and 338.

[Al-Zuhaykah] In your view, will the security arrangements that the Israelis are talking about and over which you have made headway with them be similar to the security arrangements established on the Egyptian front after the signing of the Camp David accords?

[Al-'Allaf] We have not discussed the details of the security arrangements at all. In many previous rounds, we talked about the principles that should govern any security arrangements, measures, or guarantees. For example, we have said that any security arrangement should involve both sides equally. This means that any security arrangements should not violate the sovereignty or rights of any party and that the security of any party should not be at the expense of the other. As I have said, we insist on equal footing between the two parties, but Israel is trying to evade this. Israel is demanding that its own particular needs be taken into consideration. We do not recognize needs that are pretexts for geographical arrangements. We say that as long as security arrangements are mutual, there is no room to talk about special needs.

Some of these matters have been accepted and others are still being rejected by Israel, such as the issue of equality involving both sides. We are saying that it is not possible to discuss security arrangements, regardless of their shape, in isolation from the land, because such arrangements are not reached in a vacuum. In our case, the land we are talking about can be no other than the whole Syrian territories, after Israel's withdrawal from the lands it occupied in 1967.

[Al-Zuhaykah] What is your comment on repeated statements by Israeli officials who say that before withdrawing from the Golan Heights they want to know the Syrian concept of the meaning of peace?

[Al-'Allaf] We say that this is evasion by Israel of its commitments by imposing preconditions and new commitments on what it should undertake in the first place. When Syria presented a document in the sixth round—an important document that addresses all the elements of peace and security, including full withdrawal and comprehensiveness, whereby peace would include all parties in the Arab-Israeli conflict—we answered all those questions. If Israel is serious and sincere, it has no right to talk about the results and fruits of peace and about what will happen after peace is established between states and make this a precondition that it imposes on the other side while still occupying its land. Before talking about a firm commitment concerning full withdrawal, Israel has no right to talk about matters whose time has not yet come. Our positions in this respect are firm. [passage omitted]

[Al-Zuhaykah] As you know, some obstacles are preventing progress on the Palestinian-Israeli track. The most important of these is Israel's intransigent stance on the Jerusalem issue and its refusal to place it on the agenda of this round of negotiations. As you are aware, Jerusalem is very important, not only to the Palestinians, but also to the Arab and Islamic worlds, and certainly to the Christian world. What is Syria's stance on this issue?

[Al-'Allaf] Syria's position is that Israel must withdraw from every part of the Arab territories it occupied in 1967. Naturally, this means that East Jerusalem is at the forefront of those occupied territories. Of course, we know that the Palestinian brothers are the primary decisionmakers regarding this issue. But as you have said, due to Jerusalem's position and status for the Arabs, Muslims, and Christians, we share with the Palestinian brothers the responsibility of this decision regarding Jerusalem. As for the other lands, we will support any decision made by the Palestinians. We will not accept any unilateral solution. Hence, we reject a separate peace and any partial solution. You know that if we had wanted a separate peace or a partial solution we could have concluded such a peace 15 or 18 years ago—or even 26 years ago in the aftermath of the 1967 war, when it was suggested that Israel return all Syrian and Egyptian territories provided that Syria and Egypt end the state of war with Israel, even without the condition of peace agreements. In our view, the situation of Jerusalem does not differ from the rest of the occupied Arab territories. Jerusalem is even more important because of its Arab, Islamic, and Christian status. Any solution that ignores or disregards Jerusalem will be an incomplete solution and will not bring peace to the region. [passage omitted]

[Al-Zuhaykah] How do you assess relations now between Syria and the PLO?

[Al-'Allaf] First of all they are relations between two brothers. On the delegation level, we maintain the best and most solid relationship between the PLO and Syria, because this bond is crucial. I believe that there should always be a close relationship despite the fact that, unfortunately, in some cases clouds appear that are in the interest of neither the PLO nor Syria. Syria's stance on the Palestinian problem is pan-Arab—a stance linked to Syria's history, pan-Arabism, and the Arab role. This stance cannot but be supportive of the Palestinian people's rights. It is regrettable that things sometimes happen for other reasons, but it can be said that relations now are good. Meetings have taken place between the PLO chairman and President al-Asad, especially recently—before and after the ninth round, I believe. I am not qualified to discuss these matters in detail because I do not follow them closely. I concentrate my attention here on coordination, which is very good.

Therefore, matters on the level of the leaderships must also be good. [passage omitted]

Shammas Urges Israeli Withdrawal From South Lebanon

NC3006172793 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Correspondent Michel al-Haj's dispatch from Washington]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In a statement to reporters before leaving the U.S. State Department yesterday, Ambassador Suhayl Shammas, head of the Lebanese delegation to the peace talks, said that he had hoped that the Israeli delegation would discuss the text of the Lebanese paper. However, the Israeli delegation again spoke of south Lebanon, Hizballah operations there, and the Syrian presence in Lebanon and so forth. He said that the Israeli side should take into consideration the transformation and the political, social, and economic progress Lebanon has made in the past three years. He noted that the Israeli side should consider our repeated statements on the relationship between Lebanon and Syria.

Shammas said: Regarding Hizballah, the Israeli side should act on our advice and withdraw from the Lebanese territories so that Hizballah will have no justification to carry out operations against Israel. [passage omitted]

[In a similar report from its correspondent in Washington Nuhad al-Hayik, Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic at 0515 GMT on 30 June adds: "Ambassador Suhayl Shammas defended Hizballah at Tuesday's session, during which the Israeli delegation raised the issue as it did in Monday's session. Shammas said that Hizballah is part of the national resistance movement that will continue to resist the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territories. He stressed, however, that the Lebanese Government has shouldered its task in augmenting the legitimate authority and empowered the Lebanese army to control any activities in the areas of its deployment.

["Shammas said that he called on the head of the Israeli delegation to reconsider its assessment of the current situation in Lebanon and to note the important progress Lebanon has made in the past three years, particularly on the security level. This situation requires the Israelis to reconsider their position and discuss seriously with us an agreement on a formula leading to withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanese territories as soon as possible. He stressed that Lebanon will not budge from this position until the goal of the peace process has been achieved."]

Lubrani Denies U.S. Request for 'Token' Withdrawal

TA0107072793 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Report from Washington by Razi Barqay]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Of all the talks, the most bitter confrontations took place in sessions with the Lebanese delegation on issues such as the security zone, katyushas, and the Syrian presence. This round of talks was futile, said chief Israeli negotiator Uri Lubrani.

We asked him to comment on U.S. press reports, according to which the United States suggested in the course of the talks that Israel effect a token withdrawal in the security zone as a sign of goodwill.

[Begin Lubrani recording] We heard these reports in the media, as did the Lebanese and the Americans. None of these sides has either received or heard of such a proposal. I do not think it exists. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Jordan's al-Tarawinah Meets U.S. Talks Coordinator

JN0107090193 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, Jordan's ambassador in Washington and head of the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks, yesterday met with Dennis Ross, U.S. coordinator of the peace process.

During the meeting, the two officials made a general review of developments on the Jordanian track during the current round. The ambassador emphasized Jordan's firm and clear position on a number of issues related to the holders of expired permits, family reunions, water rights, and the occupied Jordanian territory.

The two sides also exchanged views on the need to reach a just and lasting peace in the region.

The U.S. coordinator of the peace process voiced an understanding of the Jordanian position and emphasized the U.S. commitment to the peace process.

The two sides also reviewed the topics that will be discussed in a multilateral conference, and the meetings of the conference steering committee, which will be held in Moscow next week.

In another development, the Jordanian delegation continued to discuss topics on the agenda of the unofficial, temporary committees, including water, energy, environment, refugees, and the occupied Jordanian territory.

Palestinian Affairs

Al-Hut Takes Issue With 'Arafat Statements

PM1006160093 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 27 Jun-3 Jul 93 p32

[Unattributed report: "Al-Hut's Differences With Abu 'Ammar: From Lebanon to the Negotiations"]

[Text] Shafiq al-Hut, the PLO's representative in Lebanon, has reacted to the statements made recently by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to the Israeli paper HA'ARETZ in which he said that he wished to take over the Gaza Strip and parts of the West Bank to prove that he can establish order in them "as he did for many years in Lebanon." Al-Hut said: I hope he did not make that statement. We Palestinians and Arabs do not need to open old files and old wounds. We have enough problems. 'Arafat's statement came at a time when the PLO's office in Beirut, which has been reopened after closure for 10 years, was making efforts to mend Palestinian-Lebanese relations after what happened during the war in Lebanon.

There has been another disagreement between al-Hut and his leadership over the Palestinian decisions regarding the current negotiations being held to resolve the region's crisis. Al-Hut believes that it is necessary for the Palestine National Council [PNC] to meet after the 10th round of negotiations because he expects the Palestinians to have just two options: Despair and continued participation in the negotiation process with a view to suspending it or withdrawing from it completely, or serious participation in the process with a view to signing initial agreements. Either way, the matter should be referred to the PNC or perhaps a wider framework so that everyone will bear responsibility for the final decision.

Paper Deplores Kuwaiti Support for Baghdad Raid

PM0307134093 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 30 Jun 93 p 11

[Editorial: "A Regrettable Kuwaiti Stance"]

[Text] That Kuwait was the only Arab state to support the recent U.S. missile attack on Iraq means that it now belongs to a world other than the Arab world and is loyal to a nation and a religion other than the Arab nation and the righteous Islamic religion.

That position taken by Kuwait shows the extent of its isolation and the depth of the plight it brought on itself through its government's policies violating the Arab consensus and supporting everything hostile to this nation and its history and culture.

Only one stance is worse than Kuwait's. It is that taken by the Iraqi opposition movements, which have not condemned that flagrant U.S. aggression on Iraq inflicting many civilian casualties. This is perhaps the first time in modern history that some organizations and factions have applauded aggression against their country and people without even token sympathy with the innocent people torn apart by the U.S. missiles.

It is regrettable that President Clinton took that step using as a pretext some Kuwaiti information about an alleged plot to assassinate former U.S. Presidnet George Bush. The only material evidence was that the method used to plant the explosive devices in the booby-trapped vehicle was similar to another car bomb Iraq is said to have used against its opponents in northern Iraq.

It is difficult for us to confirm or deny the charge made against Iraq, for the simple reason that the case is still in the hands of the Kuwaiti courts. Yesterday that case was postponed for a few days. In other words, although we have doubts about their honesty, these courts have not given their final verdict on the case yet.

We do not believe that it would have been very difficult for the Kuwaiti intelligence organs to fabricate the entire alleged assassination plot. There were known Kuwaiti precedents in this connection. The latest was the story about the nurseries, used by former President Bush to incite the whole world against Iraq. It then transpired that the story was made up by Kuwait's ambassador to Washington, who did not hesitate to exploit innocent children in his testimony to the U.S. Congress.

President Clinton may have gained some popularity with his latest strike, zbut it will be a temporary popularity that will soon disappear when the Americans wake up to the facts about their deteriorating economy caused by their President's failed policies.

We wonder how the American people can support their government's killing of innocent people in Iraq in a theatrical strike that has no legal or moral justification, unless the people themselves are bloodthirsty, largely evil, and eager to kill.

Surely the raid on Baghdad will not stop the violence or put an end to terrorism. On the contrary, it could lead to an escalation of terrorism. The Iraqi chief of intelligence has pledged to avenge the victims of the raid, and some Arab extremist groups have threatened to retaliate to that crime at the appropriate time.

At any rate, by taking that hasty action, President Clinton has given a major gift to extremism and the extremists and has dealt the biggest blow to moderation and the moderates in the Arab region, particularly as the fundamentalist tide is rising throughout the whole Arab world.

We hope that the brothers in Iraq will exercise self-restraint and not carry out any reprisals that would give more pretexts to the American muscle man to continue his aggression against Iraq.

Algeria

Citizens Die in Attacks; Police Kill Two

LD3006164393 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpts] The National Gendarmerie Command confirmed today that some citizens were the victims of a series of terrorist assassinations and attacks in the areas of Algiers, Medea, and Boumerdes yesterday and the day before. The Gendarmerie Command pointed out that three citizens were assassinated by an armed group in the Cherarba and Blida regions. [passage omitted]

The National Gendarmerie Command also reported that two terrorists were killed by police yesterday in Blida when attempting to escape from a police checkpoint. The security services in Relizane arrested two people, armed with automatic pistols, who were being hunted by the police.

Egypt

Mubarak Receives al-Bashir for 'Friendly' Talks

NC3006142093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0916 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jun (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak this morning received General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolution Command Council, at Cairo International Conference Center.

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im, head of the press office at the presidential office, said that the talks between President Mubarak and Sudanese leader al-Bashir, which lasted for 75 minutes, were held in a friendly atmosphere and full understanding. He noted that the Egyptian and Sudanese foreign ministers later joined the meeting. He said that during the meeting the Egyptian-Sudanese situation and the Hala'ib issue were discussed. They also discussed topics on the African summit agenda.

Leaders Hold News Conference

NC3006134893 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jun (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak and Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolutionary Command Council for National Salvation, held a joint news conference following their talks today on the sidelines of the OAU summit in Cairo.

President Mubarak made a statement in which he welcomed al-Bashir to Egypt and said that Egyptian-Sudanese relations have always been strong. Mubarak said: We discussed at our meeting today all the issues that gave rise to differences between us and Sudan. We clarified matters and agreed that the two foreign ministers would get together to discuss ways of eliminating these differences for good. Once this is done, President al-Bashir and I will meet at a venue of our choice and draw up a semifinal agreement [ittifaqn shibh niha'i] on the method in which we will deal with each other.

President Mubarak said that the relations between Egypt and Sudan are strong, adding that what happened recently was a summer cloud.

President Mubarak said that he and al-Bashir discussed the matters over which the two countries had differences. Mubarak said: We had an exchange of views and agreed on the method through which we may approach any differences between the two countries.

Lt. Gen. al-Bashir made a statement in which he expressed his happiness to meet President Mubarak today. He said that one of the reasons for attending the OAU summit was to meet President Mubarak and discuss matters with him.

Al-Bashir said that his talks with President Mubarak on Egyptian-Sudanese relations were characterized by the usual frankness between the two sides. He said: "We talked candidly and, as President Mubarak said, we have agreed that the Egyptian and Sudanese foreign ministers will meet to discuss all points of disagreement that led to the tension in our ties. I will then meet with President Mubarak anywhere we agree on."

He added: "God willing, President Mubarak and I will meet in any place we agree on in Sudan or in Egypt to work out a formula to address any problems that arise between Egypt and Sudan."

Responding to a question on whether their meeting today means that they will not resort to force to solve the Hala'ib crisis, President Mubarak said: "I would like to say that I previously stated that there will be no resort to violence with Sudan under any circumstances." He added: "I have already said that I will not fight any Sudanese and that the Egyptians will absolutely not brandish arms in the face of the Sudanese. I believe that Sudan has the same feelings." He said that there are brother Sudanese and Egyptian military units in Hala'ib and that they live together as friends. They sometimes eat lunch and supper together. There is no problem between us, he added.

In response to a question about the date of the meeting between the Sudanese and Egyptian foreign ministers, President Mubarak said: 'Amr Musa and Husayn Abu-Salih are in Cairo now. Probably, they will meet today or tomorrow or during the next two days. There is no problem in that.

When asked about Egyptian-Sudanese relations, President Mubarak said: The Sudanese-Egyptian relations have always been strong and deep-rooted. Whatever happens, the situation always returns to normal and the relations become stronger.

Asked if Sudan will withdraw the memorandum submitted to the UN Security Council concerning Hala'ib, al-Bashir said: We have said that the foreign ministers of

the two countries will hold talks regarding all recent issues and they will try to resolve them.

At the end of their news conference, leaders Mubarak and al-Bashir left to attend the final session of the African summit, which started earlier today.

Further al-Bashir Comments

NC3006145193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1145 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jun (MENA)—Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolutionary Command Council for National Salvation, has stated that the African summit, which was held in Cairo, has provided an opportunity to hold a direct meeting with President Husni Mubarak to discuss Sudanese-Egyptian relations with all frankness and clarity.

He said that a meeting was held with brother President Husni Mubarak this morning during which we agreed that the foreign ministers of Sudan and Egypt should meet to discuss all issues pertaining to the relations between the two countries and to propose solutions to all these issues. He said that another meeting will also be held with President Mubarak to endorse what the two foreign ministers have achieved.

These remarks came in a news conference that Lt. Gen. al-Bashir held this afternoon at the International Conference Center in Madinat al-Nasr in Cairo on the sidelines of the African summit conference, which wound up its meetings today. Al-Bashir said that immediately after his meeting with Mubarak, the media campaigns between the two countries were halted. Also, everything effecting the relations between the two countries has ceased, al-Bashir added.

Al-Bashir added that everyone will note that the Egyptian and Sudanese foreign ministers will work in a healthy atmosphere that would help improve the relations between the two countries.

Touching on the issue of Hala'ib and what agreement has been reached during his talks with President Mubarak concerning this issue, al-Bashir said that all points of difference between Egypt and Sudan will be discussed by the two foreign ministers. He noted that the foreign ministers will propose solutions to these issues, which will be submitted to the bilateral summit. He said that the date of the two ministers' meeting will be set following their current mission at the African summit conference.

To a question about the closure of the Egyptian consulates in Sudan and the Sudanese consulates in Egypt, al-Bashir said that these matters will be discussed by the two foreign ministers and they will present proposals concerning them.

With regard to setting up a mechanism to resolve disputes in Africa, al-Bashir said: We have reservations on this mechanism, but we approve it in principle. This mechanism must be 100-percent African because there are ambiguous provisions, particularly concerning the issue of finance, al-Bashir added.

Al-Bashir denied that there are terrorists training camps in Sudan, saying these reports are part of the campaign against Sudan. He said: We repeated often that there are no training camps in Sudan for training any foreigners and that no foreigners participate in training the Sudanese Armed Forces or the Sudanese Popular Defense Forces. He added that the training camps in Sudan are open to anyone who wants to visit to see for himself the truth about these camps.

On the Sudanese Government's Islamic orientation and the growth of fundamentalist movements in the countries south of Sudan and on whether Sudan supports the fundamentalists in Somalia, Kenya, and other neighboring countries, al-Bashir said that the Islamic orientation in Sudan is real and Sudan's commitment to the Islamic course does not mean that it helps any organizations outside Sudan. He reasserted that Sudan does not support any organizations outside Sudan no matter their orientation.

Asked about Sudan's position on supporting Iraq during the Gulf war, on Sudanese-Iranian relations, and the effects of Iranian threats to Sudan's ties with the Arab countries, al-Bashir said: Regarding the Gulf war, we did not declare our support for Iraq in its occupation of Kuwait. Our position was to reject inviting foreign forces to defend Saudi Arabia or liberate Kuwait. Regarding the Iranian threat to the Gulf countries, he said: We are opposed to any threat or the use of force to solve any disputes among countries, especially if these countries are Arab or Islamic. We support peaceful means to resolve all issues, particularly border issues. He noted that there is nothing in relations between Sudan and Iran against any country. If relations with Iran were central they would have affected Sudanese-Iraqi relations. Regarding Sudan's ties with certain Arab countries, he said we support all overtures for the return of accord to the Arab fold.

Answering a question on Sudan's reaction to the recent U.S. strikes on Iraq, al-Bashir said Sudan rejects all kinds of aggression. Al-Bashir pointed out that Sudan showed reservations earlier about calling foreign troops to the Gulf region due to the political, economic, and social repercussions such a move will have on the region.

He added that no state has the right to punish another because there are international organizations before which such issues are presented. We are opposed to having one country punish another merely because one person made a mistake.

As for the internal situation in Sudan and the problems of food shortages, in addition to reports about starvation creeping up to Khartoum itself, al-Bashir said he wishes to invite anyone who wants to inspect the issue of starvation. Al-Bashir affirmed: Our problem is that we produce things in excess but we have no warehouses in

which to store the agricultural products. However, transportation of products via railway lines has helped resolve this problem. This prompted us to raise the capacity of railway transportation to 2 million tonnes a year. He said Sudan this year achieved a growth rate of 13 percent.

Asked whether Sudan did not carry out a military campaign in the south because of Western and American pressures on it, al-Bashir said they stopped their military campaign when the other party indicated its readiness to cease fire. Our hope was to provide an opportunity for finding a solution during the Abuja talks, he held.

He stressed that Sudan did not stop its military campaign against the south as a result of any foreign pressures.

To a question from MENA regarding recent accusations by the United States to Sudan on terrorism, al-Bashir answered that he had not received anything from the U.S. Administration with respect to this issue. We have no evidence that the Sudanese are involved in this issue.

He added: The Sudanese Government condemns terrorism and all acts of sabotage whose target is civilian life.

He affirmed that acts of terrorism go against the principles of Islam which the Sudanese Government applies.

With respect to the problem in the south, the Sudanese president pointed out that his government exerted immense efforts for the first time to propose practical solutions to the problem.

He added that the problem in the south can be summarized in a group of demands the brothers in the south made regarding participation in authority and the links between state and religion. Regarding the problem in the south, al-Bashir said the Sudanese Government raised the standard of the Armed Forces, which helped regain most cities the rebel movement had occupied. The forces are now working to regain the remaining regions still under the control of the rebels. He expressed his hopes that the problem of the south will be resolved through dialogue and negotiations because it is a political problem in the first place.

Asked about reports regarding violatations of the rights of the Christian minority in Sudan, al-Bashir said Pope John Paul II visited Sudan and met with representatives from all sects. Some of the erroneous information he had was rectified.

He said Sudan has no religious conflicts and that its united land has both Muslims and Christians. Some Christians are members of the Revolution Command Council, the Council of Ministers, and the governors of the provinces. He pointed out that before the salvation revolution, one Christian ambassador represented Sudan abroad; now there are seven.

Responding to a question from MENA regarding freezing Sudan's membership in the IMF because it does not pay back the service on its debts on time, al-Bashir said Sudan's current debts are the responsibilities of the previous governments and that Sudan's debts to the IMF alone are over $1 billion.

Al-Bashir criticized Sudan's previous governments and held them responsible for the present huge debts.

Al-Bashir on 'New Chapter,' in Ties

NC3006210093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1845 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jun (MENA)—Lieutenant General 'Umar al- Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolutionary Council, has stated that whoever is hostile to Egypt cannot be a friend of Sudan and the opposite is true. During a meeting with the Bar Association council members this evening, he said his meeting with President Mubarak this morning opened a new chapter in Egyptian-Sudanese relations that have been tense recently.

Al-Bashir stressed that the Sudanese people's sentiments toward Egypt are not artificial. Faith in unity with Egypt is unshaken because Egypt is a natural depth ['umq Tabi'i] for Sudan, the same as Sudan is a natural depth for Egypt.

Al-Bashir said Sudan views the existing borders among the Arab countries as a result of the imperialist era. He affirmed the importance of unity among the Arab states at a time when the world is moving toward forming blocs.

Ahmad al-Khawajah, chairman of the Bar Association, raised the subject of the closure of Cairo University branch in Khartoum and the Egyptian educational mission's schools in Sudan. Al-Bashir said these measures were taken within the framework of modernizing education in Sudan. However, the tense relations between the two countries made these measures take other dimensions.

Al-Bashir's visit to the Bar Association stirred up hot debate within the council after Bar Association Secretary General Ahmad Sayf-al-Islam Hasan al-Banna [a Muslim Brotherhood figure] prevented council member Mrs. Tahani al-Jibali from commenting on al-Bashir's speech.

Musa Views Meeting With Sudanese Counterpart, Bonnie

NC3006230093 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa stated after his meeting today with Sudanese Foreign Minister Dr. Husayn Abu-Salih that an agreement was reached to hold a meeting between the two foreign ministers next month. The foreign minister affirmed that intentions are clear to rectify the recent problems in Sudanese-Egyptian relations.

The foreign minister commented on the draft resolution that has been rejected by the Security Council stipulating lifting the ban on exporting arms to the Muslim Bosnian people. He said Egypt regrets this stand because it supported the draft resolution. He said U.S. support for this resolution was a positive stand. We salute this stand.

'Arafat on Egyptian-Sudanese Ties, Peace Talks

NC3006142693 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1054 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jun (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has expressed his happiness about the meeting today between President Husni Mubarak and General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolution Command Council. He said: I am sure that what happened between Egypt and Sudan was a summer cloud and that relations between them will return to normal. In a statement to reporters today, 'Arafat said: I am very happy today and what took place between President Mubarak and al-Bashir is a good step toward boosting cooperation between the two countries.

'Arafat said that the fraternal Egyptian-Sudanese relations are very strong because they are relations of brotherhood, fate, and history, and are linked by the Nile River. He noted that the PLO will continue to support these ties and will remain at the service of our brothers in Egypt and Sudan.

Responding to a question on the African summit resolutions, particularly the resolution to support the Palestinian people's struggle, 'Arafat said that the African summit stands firmly by and adopts noble and distinguished position on the Palestinian people's cause on all levels. He noted that agreement was reached yesterday approving a resolution on the Palestinian cause and that the African presidents unanimously approved it.

On African-Palestinian ties, 'Arafat said that these ties are based on brotherhood, friendship, and common fate. We thank the African heads of state and peoples.

Asked his assessment of the role of negotiations in the peace process in the Middle East, 'Arafat said that this role does not rise to the required level."

On the issue of Jerusalem and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's statement that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel, 'Arafat said: "If Rabin says that, regrettably, I maintain in the name of Palestinians, Arabs, Muslims, and Christians that Jerusalem is the capital of the state of Palestine."

On his role in arranging the meeting between Presidents Mubarak and al-Bashir, 'Arafat said: "What concerns me in this issue is that things returned to what they were before between the brothers in Egypt and Sudan."

'Arafat proceeded toward Presidents Mubarak and al-Bashir following their joint news conference, shook hands warmly with them, embraced them, and congratulated them on their meeting and on the passing of the summer cloud that marred their ties recently.

Mubarak, Ethiopia's Meles Sign Cooperation Pact

NC0107103493 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Cairo, 1 Jul (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak and Ethiopian leader Zenawi Meles this morning signed a general framework for bilateral cooperation at a meeting in Cairo Airport's VIP lounge before Meles left Cairo.

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im, head of the press bureau at the Presidential Office, said the framework emphasizes both countries' determination to strengthen friendship and cooperation and to establish a broad base of common interests to ensure the best use of their natural and economic resources.

'Abd-al-Mun'im said the agreement demonstrates a long tradition of links associated with the Nile River and its basin as a center for their mutual interests. He said the cooperation framework is in line with both countries' commitment to the UN Charter, the OAU Charter, and international law. He said the protocol includes eight articles. According to these articles, both countries assert commitment to the principles of good neighborliness, the peaceful settlement of disputes, noninterference in domestic affairs, enhancing confidence and understanding between the two countries, and emphasizing the importance of cooperation as a basic and modern means to strengthen economic and political interests and stability in the region.

'Abd-al-Mun'im said the framework also included several clauses on the use of Nile water. He said the two sides agreed that the use of the water will be detailed at a meeting of experts from both countries based on international law. They agreed not to do anything with the Nile's water that might harm the interests of either party. He said Egypt and Ethiopia stressed the need to preserve this vital artery for both countries. They pledged to consult and cooperate on mutually beneficial projects to increase the flow of the Nile water and decrease water loss as part of a comprehensive and integrated development plan.

Concluding his statement, 'Abd-al-Mun'im said Egypt and Ethiopia also agreed to set up a suitable mechanism for consultations over issues of common concern including the Nile's water and to work together for peace and stability in the region. He noted that both parties also agreed to seek a framework of cooperation among Nile basin countries to strengthen common interests and promote development. Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi, Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif, Engineer 'Isam Radi, minister of works and water resources, Presidential Office Head Dr.

Zakariya 'Azmi, and Egyptian Ambassador to Ethiopia Majdi 'Abd-al- Mun'im Hafni attended the signing ceremony.

Paper Comment on U.S. Strike on Baghdad

Clinton's Motives Examined

NC3006130893 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 28 Jun 93 p 2

[Column by Husayn 'Abd-al-Wahid: "Missile Messages"]

[Text] There is more than one motive for U.S. President Bill Clinton's decision to launch the missile attack against Baghdad at dawn yesterday. The first of these motives is naturally what Clinton himself declared about Washington's desire to punish the Iraqi regime for complicity in the attempt to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush during his visit to Kuwait in April.

Most or all of the other motives that Clinton did not mention in his statement on the missile attack were not linked to the domestic situation in the United States and the traditional forces affecting the U.S. President's decision.

More clearly, it can be said that with this strike on Baghdad President Clinton wanted to send several messages, both international and domestic. The address of the first message was Iraq-Baghdad, the Presidential Palace, Saddam Husayn. The gist of the letter is to tell Saddam not to rely on reports on differences in style between Bush and Clinton or a change in the U.S. policy toward him. It is likely that this message was sent to other capitals.

As for the domestic message, it is most importantly addressed to U.S. public opinion where opinion polls indicated a decline in confidence in Clinton and growing belief that Clinton is weak, indecisive, and incapable of confrontation. President Clinton wanted the message to reach an important sector of the American people represented by the military, who do not like Clinton because of disagreement over homosexuals' service in the Army, closure of dozens of military bases, and reduction in defense expenditures. Therefore, in his statement on the missile attack on Baghdad, Clinton took pains to praise the Armed Forces and U.S. intelligence personnel.

Moreover, Clinton came under pressure from the Congress and other influential segments of American society to take military action against Iraq not only to convince it that Bush enjoys Washington's protection as a U.S. citizen but also that Bush's policy remains one of the basic options to reassert to any time both against Saddam Husayn or any other person who makes the mistake of differentiating between former Republican President Bush and current Democratic President Clinton.

Clinton Said Inflaming Extremism

NC3006120893 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 28 Jun 93 p 3

[From the Naji Qamhah column: "Shaykh Clinton!"]

[Text] U.S. President Clinton sat thinking in the White House for the past six months, without making a single firm decision on any international or local problem.

We thought that the man was taking his time to study the files of these problems thrown in his path by former President Bush and paid scant attention to Clinton's election campaign promises, which depicted him as a supporter of human rights for everyone, from Muslims in Bosnia to homosexuals in the United States.

We sat waiting for the birth of the first offspring from the White House after six months of labor pains. And we were surprised yesterday with a deformed, retarded, and bigoted child, disfigured by the Bush curse that seems to be following President Clinton, regardless of whether Bush is inside the White House or on a visit to Kuwait...!

The ugly baby presented to us by President Clinton came in the form of 23 missiles fired on Baghdad, the historic Arab, Islamic capital. It was the first product of what is being cooked up in the back rooms of the White House for Arab and Islamic issues because we are regarded as the weak party in this world.... It is not being made in the official rooms, where statements and dazzling promises about security, peace, peoples' freedom, and human rights are made.

President Clinton displayed the courage of a lion against Baghdad while fleeing from Bosnia's arena, which he promised to help but did not help. He disregarded the promised U.S. role of one who creates peace in the Middle East and one who does not strike its capitals with missiles, ignored the attempts of America's friends to beautify its face, which no expert can fix, and added more oil to the blazing fires of extremism in the Islamic world in an expression of rejection of weakness and humiliation.

We do not rule out the possibility of a day when history will record that President Clinton—after his false promises but real missiles—was the one who inflamed extremism more than Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman.

U.S. 'Excuse' Not Convincing

NC0107054693 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jun (MENA)—AL-AHRAM asserts the world is not convinced by the excuse the U.S. official spokesman gave to justify the rocket attack on Baghdad last Sunday.

In an editorial to be published on 1 July, the paper points out that Egypt was at the head of the states describing the raid as incompatible with the American disregard for the acts of murder and transgression and the displacement of

people in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where Muslims are falling victim to Serb aggression.

The paper refers to the other excuse the official U.S. spokesman presented, in which he said hundreds of Kuwaiti nationals could have been killed or wounded had the attempt on the life of former U.S. President George Bush succeeded, because the booby-trapped car was loaded with a huge amount of explosive. The paper notes that this excuse did not convince many, adding that mistakes should not be corrected by mistakes and destruction should not be cured by counterdestruction.

AL-AHRAM notes that the Kuwaiti judiciary is still considering the conspiracy to assassinate President Bush and has yet to make a final, irrevocable decision.

The paper asks what prompted U.S. President Bill Clinton to make his decision without consulting the United Nations. It asks why the might of America implemented this decision before notifying most states and punished the suspect before he is proven guilty.

Preacher Testifies on Need To Kill Apostates

NC0107073193

[Editorial Report] Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic on 23 June publishes on page 8 an approximately 1,000-word report on the testimony of Shaykh Muhammad al-Ghazali, a prominent Islamic preacher, before the High Security Court investigating the murder of secular writer Faraj Fawdah. The report includes the questions addressed to al-Ghazali by the defense and his answers. Asked about Islam's ruling concerning those who explicitly have contempt for or reject the implementation of the Islamic shari'ah, al-Ghazali says: "Objection to the implementation of shari'ah is blasphemy [kufr]." He adds: "If one rejects the rule of God, he gets out of God's religion." Asked about Islam's punishment for apostasy, he says: "In the shari'ah, the apostate is asked to declare repentance and the general jurisprudent opinion is that he is killed."

Al-Ghazali maintains the punishment must be inflicted, saying that "God's ruling cannot be canceled by anyone." However, he maintains that it is the judiciary authority that should enforce the law, not individuals. When asked what happens if an individual implements the punishment, he says: "He will be transcending the authority." Asked if this results in any punishment in Islam, he says: "I do not know of any."

Libya

Al-Muntasir Comments on Lockerbie, Ties With Arabs

NC0107072193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0617 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Cairo, 1 Jul (MENA)—'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison—foreign minister, has stated that the African summit in Cairo must be a starting point for a new future for Africa. He said Cairo hosted every African liberation movement until independence.

In a statement to today's AL-JUMHURIYAH, al-Muntasir said 30 years after the establishment of the OAU, the organization needs to reassess its positions and achievements and adopt new policies in view of international developments. He called for solving African problems within the framework of the OAU and strengthening cooperation among the African countries to confront attempts and the struggle for influence in Africa. He stressed his country's political and economic support for the African countries, noting its support for African liberation movements.

On the Libyan-Western crisis over the Lockerbie aircraft issue, al-Muntasir reasserted his country's readiness to try the suspects in a neutral country. He called for the need to hold the trial soon so that the world will realize the suspects' innocence.

Al-Muntasir praised the Arab League's efforts to ease the crisis, saying that through the seven-member committee, it explained the crisis' dimensions to other countries. He called on the Arab and African countries to suspend the implementation of the blockade resolution now that its justifications have been invalidated and it has become clear that the West uses double standards in international issues. He said the blockade led to the deaths of 900 Libyan citizens in road accidents. An aircraft crashed, he said, for lack of spare parts and many died because they could not go abroad for medical treatment.

Al-Muntasir described Egyptian-Libyan ties as 'splendid,' noting that Libya's ties with the Gulf countries are not deteriorating, but are normal. He denied any differences between Libya and the PLO, noting that only the PLO has camps in the Libyan Jamahiriyah. He stressed Libya's support for the Palestinian people's decisions. He accused Western intelligence of sponsoring extremism and terrorism in the Arab countries to serve Western goals.

Al-Qadhdhafi on Punishment, Rehabilitation of Criminals

LD0107090793 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Speech by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to prisoners in rehabilitation centers; place and date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] Of course my speech is addressed to all those who are at rehabilitation centers, even those who are not present with us here. What I regret, as I have told you, is that our conduct, that of the wrongdoer and the wronged, leads us to the situation in which we are. I told you brothers: Who benefits from paralyzing our capability in this manner? Would it not have been better for this force

in front of me to build and make good things than to sit inside these walls? [passage omitted]

I hope that this day and this meeting is the start of a genuine repentance and I am addressing myself to all the residents of the rehabilitation centers. [passage omitted]

Let us today—and I am addressing the residents of rehabiltation centers all over the Jamahiriyah—seriously review our conduct. This course does not befit those who bring themselves inside these walls. Things have reached the point where women are in prison. It used to be impossible for a woman to enter such an establishment. Regrettably a group of sisters is here and there are similar ones in other establishments. Their conduct led these women to such establishments. Tell me what ordeals brought you to this place? Some are because of alcohol, hashish, theft. Brothers, these are things that you can give up. We know of people who gave up smoking. Thousands of people quit smoking in a short period and the whole world even is giving up smoking.

You see people who were addicted to smoking and gave up. Why? Because they found out that it is harmful or the doctor told them to quit smoking. They gave up smoking, nothing happened to them and they are fine. [passage omitted]

When I come to you and tell you this, this must be a turning point in the conduct of our people, not only that of the residents of rehabilitation centers. [passage omitted]

If the things that brought you to this place are still being committed in the street, what is the use? They will lead others to the same place. I want a decisive moment and a serious stand from this day onward, the stand of a nation facing the threat of extinction and destruction at the hands of its enemies. Consequently it is a shame for a son of this nation to assist the enemy by becoming drunkard, a drug addict, by committing a crime against his brother citizen and be placed in such a place in which he is paralyzed, chained, handcuffed. We are facing an enemy which wants to eliminate the Arab nation and which is making missiles and nuclear, and bacteriological bombs but says the Arabs are banned from making these things. Anything you do, we will destroy. What does this mean? It means that it alone has the destructive power while we remain weak. We confront it and we must defend our existence and make any sacrifice. But if we behave in such trivial ways, how can we progress?

As regards the drunkard: Alcohol is banned to us as Muslims. There is no benefit in drinking alcohol. It destroys the family, your health, your pocket and everything. There are people who say: Europe gets drunk. The Europeans do not get drunk like us to the extent of committing a crime. You never find a drunkard in the street. [passage omitted]

Since alcohol is banned in your country, how do you get it? First of all this is a shame. You get it because you are an agent for a foreign embassy, a foreign company, a smuggler. This is what it means. A person in Libya who drinks very much we consider an agent for a foreign embassy or a foreign company, because alcohol does not exist in Libya, is not manufactured in Libya, and for someone to get drunk means that he is an agent of a foreign power. This could be the CIA, the Mosad, or French or Italian intelligence! What does it mean when a thing is banned in your country and you get it? Had you made the alcohol yourself one may understand. But alcohol is banned in Libya and we find a Libyan drunk: where did he get this alcohol? He either got it from the Embassy of Italy or the Embassy of Belgium or the Embassy of Holland, or from this or that company. What does this mean? It means that he sells everything to this embassy and company, and if he is a party to a secret of his country, it means that he will pass it on. What is the value of a person who is an agent for a foreign embassy, a foreign company, foreign state in return for this alcohol? [passage omitted]

Alcohol confuses us. Besides, those who manage to get it, where do they get it from? They get it from foreign embassies. I could suggest another thing to the people's congresses: that anyone who drinks alcohol should be charged with being an agent to the enemy with which we are in a state of confrontation. The sentence for that could be death because alcohol is obtained from foreign embassies or companies. What does that mean? Do you think they give you them on the occasion of 'ashura'? They give them to you in return for selling your country and revealing its secrets. That is the charge against those who drink alcohol. That is the revolutionary assessment of drunkenness. To those who drink: where did you get alcohol from? From a foreign embassy, a foreign quarter, or a foreign company; you are a member of a gang which smuggles prohibited things coming from the enemy. And since they are from the enemy, it means that your patriotism is suspect. [Words indistinct] like smoking or drinking coffee. However, for prohibited things to come from foreigners and enemies and to land in your hands means that you deal with the enemy. That is called dealing with the enemy. That is how things should be and each one of us should give up alcohol.

As for hashish, the enemy fired the missiles at us but we were not affected; however we take the hashish and we become damaged. We hit ourselves! The hashish that comes to Libya comes from Israel and from America. Read the reports. The hashish comes in sacks, packages, and boxes sealed with wax and thrown in the sea and within a couple of days it reaches the shore and the Libyans take them.

These are bombs. The hashish comes from the Israelis. How can we say we want to liberate Palestine while your are eating hashish? This is impossible, you must be siding 100 percent with Israel if you are eating hashish, because this hashish is a war launched by Zionism and imperialism against the Arab nation. [passage omitted]

Under the current circumstances, getting drunk is considered as cooperation with the enemy. As for hashish,

you will automatically be considered as siding with the Israelis and Americans. No one dealing in hashish could say that he is not an Israeli because the hashish comes to Egypt, Libya, and the Arab countries from the Israelis. The Israelis have hashish farms with the aim of exporting it to the Arab countries. Everyday they explode an atom bomb in the Arab countries, not a traditional atom bomb but hashish. They say we are killing the Arabs everyday. How do you kill them? There is no war! No, by using the hashish. They say: everyday we send a box of atom bombs—full of hashish and drugs. Let them consume it and get dizzy. Can anyone who eats hashish say: I am against the Israelis or against Zionism! You can never say it. Today I am exposing this. [applause and chanting: Oh leader teach us]

As for theft, this is a closed matter. As from the current meeting of the people's congresses they have on their agenda the implementation of Islamic law. We cannot get around the punishments specified in the Koran. As regards theft is concerned there will be no more prison or anything else. If someone has been convicted by any means for having committed a theft, his hand will be cut off in accordance with the Koran. There should be no more argument over this. [applause] There will be no more prison for him; his hand will be cut off and that is that. This matter is finished with. Henceforth no one will be sent to prison because he is a thief. The thief's hand will be cut off and he will have to make do with one hand. If he steals again the other hand will be cut off. The Koran has ordered this and we should not be more compassionate than God himself. He said: As to the thief, male and female, cut off his or her hands: a punishment by way of example from God, for their crime. God said this as a punishment from him. If he said we should punish them then we should do it. We should not be more merciful than God; God is the most merciful and the most compassionate. He is the most friendly. And that is how it is going to be as far as wine, narcotics, and theft are concerned. We have construed the punishment as such and that is how it is going to be. I will be behind this revolutionary program and there will be no retreat from it. [applause]

Murder is of two kinds, inadvertent and deliberate. Deliberate murder is of two kinds; premeditated, which means that you have the intention of killing your brother, and intentional murder without premeditation—someone fights with another and is forced to strike a heavy blow and the other picks up a knife to stab him, so he gets the knife from him and stabs him to death which is intentional murder but he entered the fight without any plans to kill him. They wanted to have a fist fight but the devil toyed with them and it led to the killing of one of them. [passage omitted]

As regards the prisoners in the Jamahiriyah now who are in institutions: Men and women be patient. I told you before that when the revolution enters its 25th anniversary it is assumed that we will have got rid of many ills, really repented, and have become another people which have taken on board all that I have told you since the first communique of the revolution to this day. Review it and see what good things there are in them for you. [passage omitted] We are giving you a chance [applause] for a turning point and a new start. You have the chance from now to coming September, that is two months—do not disrupt this chain of thought—you have two months, God willing. The program we want to implement is that I want in these two months to change your conditions to better ones. Your conditions are bad. We will transfer you to better conditions, to a period of convalescence, a trial period, a period of the possibility of give and take, to and fro, to implement the things I am talking to you about. First we will transfer you outside these rotten places, walls, barbed wire and put you in places with fresh air, sun, games, work, cleanliness, purity, and water. This will be a transitional period, a transitional place, for a trial period. What will happen after these two months? All the Libyans who have problems with each other, those who killed others by mistake after being misled by the satan, those who killed intentionally, the one who stole from another, the one who burnt another man's farm, the one who burnt another man's car, the one who quarreled with his lover, with his neighbor, with his relation, this will be a period of repentance so that by the 25th anniversary of the revolution we will have purified ourselves, have acquired a new mentality, a new cultural revolution, we will have learned new lessons, exactly like the advent of Islam to the jahiliyah [the state of ignorance that preceded Islam] when people used to get drunk, gamble, kill in revenge, and then came Islam and made them abandon all these ills and the people became a great unified nation.

The punishment for prostitution, pardon me, like that of theft is as prescribed in the Koran. There will be no imprisonment: prostitution will be punished by 100 lashes on television, for it is said in the Koran: And let a party of the believers witness their punishment, with the aim of disgracing them. The disgracing today will be on television. It will be said so and so, the son of so and so; your children and your relations will hear your name and even those who are not present here will hear your name in another place. They will say our cousin did so and so. [passage omitted]

This will be on television, man or a women. God has prescribed this. This will not be open to discussion at all. There will be a test of repentance in those two months. All Libyans who have have entered these institutions and those outside who are related to them have to have consultations during those two months. Your families and those with whom you have had quarrels—those you have had quarrels with blame you and even your families—must be in a flexible state to allow for the exchange of views, letters, messages and visits. If people say that they are convinced that the devil had toyed with them, may God keep him away, and that we have forgiven each other, become honest with each other and as of now we will be brothers, and sign. Where is the supreme court? [indistinct response] Here is the supreme court and there

is the attorney general who belong to the General People's Congress and appointed by the General People's Congress. This gentleman ...

[Unidentified speaker] He is the chairman of judicial inspection.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Inspection? Inspection of the judiciary?

[Speaker] The highest judicial body.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] And this one?

[Speaker] The secretary general for judicial affairs.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] And this gentleman?

[speaker] The secretary general for security affairs.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The security and [word indistinct], let those who are present hear. [passage omitted]

This is a small country. We [word indistinct] each other and know each other. We must consider our reputation and social relations. The dollar will end, wine will end, even the so-called Israel will end and even America will end, and all this [word indistinct] will end. Good deeds and family, tribal, fraternal, religious and human relations will remain. [passage omitted]

If this is confirmed to me before next September, we will take the measure which will grant you your freedom and you will go out forever to our families, friends and brothers, and go to the people we have wronged and become one of them and they become one of you, and affection, harmony, and fraternity will reign. God will forgive you and you will begin a new life. [passage omitted]

We need all of you. We have 1 million people from abroad working here, whom we need. We will give you a new chance. First, all of you at the rehabilitation centers in the whole Jamahiriyah will be transferred, God willing, to places to be determined for you tomorrow, where you will camp and work with your free brothers. [applause]

Once you are transferred to the new place of repentance you should work, with the help of the people who will be charge of you, to open the doors [word indistinct] and to your foes, who God willing will be your friends in the future. [passage omitted]

I am asserting once more that I have construed and explained the crimes which have brought you here to this place; they are clear now and they will be tabled on the meetings of the people's congresses and no one should say henceforth that we must not cut off the thief's hand. God has ordered it. God said it was a punishment, i.e. we punish the thief. Flogging has also been prescribed in the Koran; it meant as a disgrace. The other things which I have also talked about are clear: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. If the shari'ah orders that someone should be killed because he killed someone else then as soon as the court passes the death sentence against him, appeals are exhausted, and the judgment is upheld, he should be executed. He should not be left to suffer anymore.

I hope that this 'ashurah is going to be a day for repentance and uprightness and a return to our noble Arab ethics and I hope that no one can take advantage of us. Are you aware that sometimes people like you are exploited by a heretic who might convince them to join his party and take part in more crimes and assassination? He might tell them: You, if you would like to repent then you should join my party. Like what is happening today in Algeria. He asked them: Do not you have houses? and their answer was no. So he told them: Come with him. They asked him: What would you give us? He replied: Paradise. They said: Very good. But he continued: There is no need to bother about life anymore because you have been losers, join my party and you will be going to paradise. They asked him: What does your party want? He said: Vote for me so I will become president. Look at the comedy; is there really anyone who is about to go paradise would bother to ask people to vote him in as president? So this is what we meant by heresy. It is sent to us by foreign intelligence. Heresy lies in those groups, which are aiming at destroy the Arab nation with the help of foreign intelligence, which would go to people like you and say: Given your plight you might as well join us. He might say that to repent you should join his party and thus you will be joining another program, a program to kill once more which would send you to prison and eventually to execution. Well, the choice is now clear. The struggle continues.

Morocco

Indian Vice President Arrives on State Visit

LD3006145793 Rabat MAP in English 1410 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Rabat, June 30 (MAP)—Indian vice-president R.K. Narayanan arrived here this Wednesday [30 June] for a state visit to Morocco at the invitation of Premier Mohamed Karim Lambrani.

In an arrival statement, the Indian official said he will have talks with King Hassan II and with several cabinet members on ways to enhance Moroccan-Indian friendly relations, particularly in economic and trade realms.

The Indian official hailed the centuries-old relations between the two countries, stressing the distinguished rank of Morocco as an Arab and African country and as a gateway of the east and the west.

Indian culture and civilization were interpreted to the west by countries like Morocco, Narayanan said adding that India harbors great esteem for the Kingdom "which has become one of the most progressing countries in the Arab world and a pillar of stabilty in this part of the world."

After underlining the efforts made by Morocco and India within the Non-Aligned Movement to promote world

peace, the Indian official voiced admiration for the progress of Morocco in socio-economic sectors and expressed congratulations for the success of the democratic process in the Kingdom as testified by the Jun. 25 poll.

Prime Minister Hosts Banquet

BK0107090293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] India and Morocco have expressed the desire to strengthen bilateral cooperation. Speaking at a banquet given in his honor by the Moroccan prime minister, Mohamed Karim Lambrani, at Rabat yesterday, the vice president, Mr. K.R. Narayanan, said that in the present era of the end of the cold war the two countries can make a joint contribution to the fashioning of a new peaceful and equitable world order. Mr. Narayanan said India was Morocco's third largest export destination last year. In his speech, the Moroccan prime minister said Mr. Narayanan's visit has provided an opportunity to express his country's feelings of appreciation for India. Mr. Lambrani said the two countries have a common stand on issues relating to international economic relationship. Earlier, Mr. Narayanan had discussions with the prime minister and the ministers for foreign affairs, energy, and mines. The minister for chemical and fertilizers, Mr. Eduardo Faleiro, was present.

King Receives ANC President Mandela

LD3006164893 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Hassan II—may God make him victorious—today received African National Congress President Nelson Mandela at the royal court. Mr. Mandela arrived earlier today. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Garang Views Formula for Two Confederal States

PM3006140093 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 29 Jun 93 p 7

[Interview with Colonel John Garang, leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement, by Mu'awiyah Yasin in London; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Yasin] Why did the Abuja negotiations fail? Is there any hope of achieving a solution while Khartoum and the National Islamic Front supporting it continue to refuse to abandon the Islamic shari'ah laws and the federation proposal?

[Garang] The failure of the Abuja negotiations is attributable to the hard-line, indeed rigid, position adopted by the regime. Even though the meetings lasted for three weeks, that was because of the flexibility displayed by the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM].

What issues were discussed in Abuja? The first issue was religion and politics. The second issue was the regime. The third issue was participation in power. Our clear position on these issues is that Sudan's unity and stability will not be achieved if some of us seek to perpetuate what divides us, like religion. This is why religion must be separated from politics. This is what we called unity under a secular democratic constitution.

We also talked in Abuja about agreeing on a formula for government that would end a certain group's domination, or the center's domination of the provinces, or any province's domination of other areas, without focusing too much on terms like federation, confederation, autonomy, and so on. But in view of the (National Islamic) Front government's insistence on its position on the religious laws and its claim that these laws represent the will of the Muslim majority in the north, we made a new proposal calling for the establishment of two confederal states with each having its own laws, administration, and army, provided that there is an area for cooperation that would become a nucleus for unionist action. Our opinion in this connection was that religion and politics must be separated in that area, which we called the central authority in order to avoid the misunderstanding caused by some terms like federation and confederation. In other words, we displayed flexibility first when discussing separating religion from state or politics, rather than insisting on the word secular. We spoke about the central authority without calling it a federation or confederation. Despite all this flexibility, the Front government insisted on mixing religion and politics, even in that limited area, on the pretext that the regime cannot violate the will of the Muslim majority. But we pushed them into a corner, telling them: We will accept the people's verdict if you give the people of the north the right to express their opinion in a democratic referendum on a specific question: Do you agree to the abolition of the shari'ah laws so that Sudan can remain united or do you insist on their application even if this will fragment Sudan? The Front's representatives rejected this proposal.

With regard to the other part of the question about the prospects for peace, this prompts us to talk about two points: First, the dispute with the regime is not confined to religious laws. It includes another issue—democracy. Since the first meeting between us in August 1989 the regime's approach has been to seek to conclude a separate peace with the movement. Our reply has always been that Sudan does not belong to the National (Islamic) Front and the SPLM, for them to share among themselves. This is why we continued—even under pluralistic regimes—to call for the convocation of a national constitutional conference in which all political, social, and military forces would participate, to determine Sudan's destiny. [passage omitted]

[Yasin] Many people have spoken of the effect of the split in the Sudanese People's Liberation Army ranks on its military and negotiating position. Do you wish to mend the rift with the old comrades?

[Garang] You ask me about a settlement with those whom you call old comrades—which is an erroneous way of solving the problem. This is because the group you talk about has not just broken away from the movement, it does not even believe in the movement's aims. Nor is it working to achieve them. It has also backtracked on all that the movement has struggled for. The source of distortion is that this group still calls itself the SPLM. The real movement is seeking to liberate Sudan and build a new Sudan. [passage omitted]

[Yasin] Your constant commitment to Sudan's unity has caused many Sudanese northerners to sympathize with your positions declared since 1983. How can you justify to your country's citizens your recent call for a confederation based on the establishment of two separate states? And do you believe that your movement is authorized by the people to demand a separation?

[Garang] First, let me say that a confederation does not mean separation, and we have never talked about it secretly. We raised the proposal in Abuja and it was announced to the people before. So the movement has no secret agenda.

Second, unity is a strategic aim. The unity we talk about is not just any unity. And certainly it is not the false unity under which we have been living. If there was real unity, the people of Sudan would not have continued to fight one another for 27 out of the 37 years of independence. When we discovered that some people claim that the Muslim majority's wish in the north is for the north to live under religious rule, we did not rush into secessionist positions. In fact we said: Let us look for a formula that achieves for the people of the north what they want and that does not impose on the non-Muslim people of the south and the provinces what they do not want. And let us agree at the same time on a common area for unionist action. [passage omitted]

To talk about authorizing the movement to demand a separation is meaningless. Because when the movement called for determining the country's destiny or conducting a referendum, it did so because in the end it is up to the masses. So we cannot impose the proposals we are advocating. We hope that the regime will follow our example as long as it claims to be expressing the majority's wish in the call for establishing a religious state.

[Yasin] What is your position on the foreign intervention against which Khartoum has persistently warned? And is there any justification for intervention?

[Garang] I did not know there was any military intervention or any possibility of it happening in Sudan. However, what I have demanded and continue to demand is the real participation of international and regional organizations in the peace process.

Most of the talk about military intervention comes from the government—which reflects the state of fear it is experiencing. This is often accompanied by meaningless statements about national sovereignty and interference in internal affairs. [passage omitted]

Tunisia

Karoui Reports Record Production Level Growth in 1992

LD0107040893 Tunis Tunis-7 Television in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpts] We now bring you details of the Higher Planning Council meeting which was attended by Prime Minister Hamed Karoui. [passage omitted]

Speaking about the 1992 results, Karoui first pointed out the record level of production growth registered during 1992, which surpassed all estimates, reaching 8.1 percent in constant prices against the expected 6.7 percent.

The prime minister stressed the encouraging results regarding employment, after referring to the noticeable opening up that the employment market has recorded and the special care the government has provided for controlling prices. Price increases fell from 7.8 percent in 1991 to 5.5 percent in 1992. A fall from 5.5 percent to 4.5 percent is expected, which is an estimate of the maximum for all of 1992.

The prime minister noted that these overall positive results should not erase some shortcomings in investments and in the foreign finance fields, among which is the fact that development in the manufacturing industries sector was below what was projected. The plan devoted utmost care due to this sector's contribution to providing an impetus to exports and the objectives of the marketplace. [passage omitted]

Karoui made clear that, in addition to these quantitative results with their positive aspects and shortcomings, the gradual progression toward the completion of the major reforms remained the primary gain of the first two years of the implementation of the plan. [passage omitted]

The minister made clear that the rate of growth and investment has facilitated a great deal of job creation. This allowed about 90 percent of additional job applications to be handled, while this percentage did not exceed the limits of 70 percent during the seventh plan. He stressed that the coming years will witness the achievement of higher levels that will guarantee the achievement of the objective stressed in the plan, which is represented in handling all the additional job applications. [passage omitted]

Regarding the dimension of regional development, the prime minister made clear that this dimension has become a tangible reality and is at the forefront of the government's interests. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Foreign Minister on Relations With Pro-Iraq States

PM3006155093 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 30 Jun 93 pp 1, 4

[Nasir al-Mutayri report: "Kuwait: No Normalization With Jordan and PLO"]

[Text] Kuwait—Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti first deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has pointed to "numerous conditions and considerations currently prompting Kuwait to consider deciding the right reaction to the indications expressed by a number of Arab states which supported the Iraqi invasion to change their positions on this aggression and its results."

In a statement he delivered to the Kuwaiti National Assembly in a session devoted to discussing relations with the "hostile states," Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said: "While we exclude the Jordanian regime and the PLO from the deliberation we are about to conduct today, we must say that considerations related principally to Kuwait's higher interests and linked to our conflict with the Iraqi regime necessitate that we conduct this deliberation."

He added that "by examining any positive indications from the other regimes that are in favor of Kuwait's position and against the Iraqi regime, Kuwait is seeking to increase the Iraqi regime's isolation." He pointed to "the existence of a noticeable backtracking on these regimes' positions supporting the Iraqi regime." He said that "in order to achieve further backtracking, Kuwait must examine these regimes' positive indications."

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad pointed out that "conducting a discussion to decide a suitable reaction by Kuwait is in line with the foundations and criteria which should be followed to produce a successful foreign policy in the light of regional and international changes. We have no option but to try to interact in accordance with foundations and principles which we should take account of and which cannot be ignored."

He emphasized that the call for a deliberation to decide the right reaction toward these regimes proceeds from a firm conviction of pan-Arab affiliation, on the grounds that Kuwait today makes its moves under a new Arab system represented in the "Damascus Declaration," which is seeking to build a new Arab order that is in line with the new world order, based on right, justice, and equality between big and small states.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah cited the positions of some Arab states which supported the invasion "and tried to influence the resolutions of international legitimacy to appease the aggressor," and the positions of some states which supported right "and contributed to highlighting the bright features of the Arab solution, rejecting the aggressive approach and support for it."

He stressed that "any response by Kuwait to any positive indications from these regimes will not be spontaneous or without forethought. Actually it must be governed by foundations based on respect and absolute commitment to the rules of Arab and international charters."

He pointed out that these foundations and principles are as follows:

- to condemn, oppose, and reject the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait;
- to urge the Iraqi regime to comply with the Security Council resolutions relating to its aggression against the State of Kuwait, especially those concerning the release of Kuwaiti and other prisoners;
- to urge the Iraqi regime to comply with and respect the results of the border demarcation committee and to support Resolution 833, on the grounds that it is a positive contribution to consolidating security and stability in the region;
- to urge the Iraqi regime to stop its false claims on Kuwait and to respect its sovereignty;
- to stress respect for international legitimacy and every state's sovereignty and rights to its own natural resources and to acquire the means of self-defense;
- to acknowledge that the Iraqi regime is the one responsible for the Iraqi people's suffering, and to urge it to exploit the channels provided by the United Nations and to support the endeavors to build a unified Arab order in line with the new world order.

Explains Support for American Raids

NC3006191093 London MBC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] In an official statement, Kuwait welcomed the recent Security Council warning that Iraq will face dire consequences if it violates the resolution demarcating the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border. Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah explained that Kuwait's support for the recent American military operations in Iraq is a result of Kuwait's suffering from the Iraqi Government's practices and sabotage operations in Kuwait. This came in an interview conducted with him by colleague Kulthum al-Sa'fi in Kuwait.

[Begin recording] [Al-Sabah] We gave our support because we are burned by this fire, as manifested by the attempt to assassinate former U.S. President Bush, and by many other acts, such as bombings of Kuwait streets and crowded public places, as confessed by defendants. We say that this terrorism must stop by any means.

[Al-Sa'fi] How far has the trial of members of the terrorism network gone?

[Al-Sabah] This subject is in the hand of the judiciary, and I do not want to make any comment in this respect.

[Al-Sa'fi] In your address to the National Assembly, you set certain conditions for normalization of relations with the countries you consider here in Kuwait as the adversary states [the Arab countries that supported Iraq during the Gulf crisis]. How are you going to inform those countries of your conditions? Will the Arab League be the vehicle?

[Al-Sabah] I believe they are not conditions as much as they are a reality. This is the reality. We did not ask others [pauses]... We say: Apologize. We say that their statements and language should reflect the things adopted by the Security Council and the Arab League summit. [end recording]

Paper Reports Military Moves, Possible UN Withdrawal

JN0107084893 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 1 Jul 93 pp 1, 18

["Exclusive" report under the headline: "An Iraqi Surprise Within Next Hours and General Mobilization Declared"]

[Text] Baghdad, Gulf capitals—The smoke of a new war is blowing in the Gulf skies amid expectations that Iraq is determined to emerge from the no-war, no-peace situation, which it has been facing since the end of the Kuwait war in March 1991, and to face the tightened siege imposed on it.

Reports from Baghdad say that the Iraqi leadership has been holding continuous meetings since Sunday [27 June] in the wake of the U.S. missile attack on the intelligence complex. Meanwhile, the Iraqi Armed Forces, in addition to the internal security forces and the organizations of the ruling Ba'th Party, have been put on maximum alert.

No confirmed information leaked from these meetings that were chaired by President Saddam Husayn. However, Iraqi party sources said that the supreme command reviewed the internal situation in Iraq and the Arab and international position in the wake of the recent U.S. missile attack, and adopted a series of measures to confront external challenges.

These sources noted that the Iraqi Government has decided to reject the UN team's attempts to install cameras in the al-Yawm al-'Azim and Rafah sites, not to allow new teams into Iraq, and to prevent their activities and tasks in the future. The same sources added that the borders with Kuwait and Iran have been beefed up with additional forces and that mobilized units affiliated with the Presidential Guards have been moved to Safwan, southern Iraq, close to the borderline demarcated by the United Nations and officially rejected by Iraq.

The same sources did not rule out calling up new batches of the reserve forces who proved high combat capabilities in the Iraq-Iran war and the Kuwait war and who were demobilized after the second Gulf war.

Reports from Baghdad also said that the Iraqi Government will issue a statement explaining the relationship between Iraq and the United Nations, the Iraqi steps to implement the Security Council resolutions, and the size of losses inflicted on Iraq as a result of destroying scientific and industrial facilities under the pretext that they are covered by the UN resolutions.

Diplomatic sources in Baghdad do not rule out that the Iraqi Government will officially announce Iraq's withdrawal from the United Nations as well as its noncompliance with any UN resolution or measures that may be taken in the future. The sources added that Iraq would take these steps now that it has become certain that the United Nations continues with its blatant hostility toward Iraq and that it has not shown any good sign despite Iraq's cooperation with its various teams and commissions.

The sources added that the Iraqi authorities are preparing the internal front psychologically and tactically to face all eventualities. The sources added that the military are not being granted any leave, armed manifestations have returned, armed checkpoints have returned to government buildings and facilities, and antiaircraft artillery guns have been positioned on many departments and ministries.

Arrivals in Amman from Iraq said they saw many Iraqi fighter planes overflying areas in southern Baghdad considered no-fly zones by the Western alliance. It is believed that an official decision was made at the beginning of the week allowing the Iraqi fighter planes to violate the no-fly zone and to reject orders or warnings by the Western allies' planes.

Political observers have noticed that Iraqi newspapers have highlighted statements by aviation and air defense commanders in which they stressed their units' readiness to confront any eventuality or threat by the alliance.

Over the past three days, the Iraqis have dismantled and transferred high tech equipment from the Rafah and al-Yawm al-'Azim sites in which the international inspection teams want to install cameras to monitor their activities on behalf of an unknown side. It is believed that the Iraqi step to move this equipment from their sites, west of Baghdad, came after receiving information that the U.S. Administration is planning to hit them either with planes or cruise missiles.

UN Official on Refusal To Allow Cameras at Test Sites

NC3006192993 Paris AFP in English 1911 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, June 30 (AFP) - A U.N. official said here on Wednesday [30 June] that Iraq's rejection of cameras at missile test sites was a "serious matter" and urged a speedy end to the standoff.

"This is a serious matter because at the moment Iraq is defying the decisions of the (U.N.) Security Council," according to Nikita Smidovich, who on June 4 asked Iraq's permission to have the cameras installed.

He recalled that on June 18 the Security Council warned Iraq of "serious consequences" if it ignored the request.

"The Security Council already qualified the rejection by the government of Iraq as a material and unacceptable breach of resolution 687 which established the cease-fire after the Gulf war," Smidovich said.

"My only hope is that Iraq will accept the Security Council decision and allow the installation of the cameras," he added.

The United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) for disarming Iraq wants "a quick solution of this issue," Smidovich said.

"What we have in mind is to put two cameras at each site," he said, referring to the al-Yawm al-'Azim and al-Rafah sites, about 60 kilometers (36 miles) south of the Iraqi capital.

"The cameras will allow us to record the tests of the missiles," he said.

Under U.N. resolutions stemming from the 1991 Gulf war, Iraq is banned from producing or possessing missiles with a range of more than 150 kilometers (90 miles).

Defense Minister Cables Saddam on U.S. 'Aggression'

JN3006191993 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Jun 93

["Text" of cable from Defense Minister Staff General 'Ali Hasan al-Majid to President Saddam Husayn]

[Text] So lose not heart, nor fall into despair, for ye must gain mastery if ye are true in faith. [Koranic verse]

His Excellency mujahid Staff Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, may God preserve him:

Once again, the disappointed Americans, unrestrained by conscience or ethics, have attacked Baghdad, the city of peace and glory, with their rancorous missiles, hitting the innocent sons of our lofty people. Their cowardly action is unjustified and void of any legal basis, and was carried out before the eyes and ears of the world. Thus, they have carried out a hideous act of terrorism.

Mr. Leader President: This despicable act of aggression will only bolster the resolution and determination of your zealous sons in our valiant army to march under your leadership along with the sons of our steadfast people in order to pursue our triumphant march, which frightened the enemies, blinded them, and registered in the annals of history bright stands for the Arab nation in its confrontation of challenges.

Mr. Leader President: In my own name, and on behalf of your brave men in this gigantic army, we pledge to you to remain faithful soldiers under your wise militant leadership, to continue to make sacrifices, and to continue working and training to serve our triumphant Iraq, God willing, and the aspirations of our glorious nation.

May God's peace and blessing be upon you.

[Signed] Staff General Fighter 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, Revolution Command Council member and defense member, on 30 June 1993

Arab Liberation Front Statement on U.S. 'Aggression'

JN2906172793 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Statement issued by the Arab Liberation Front on "the cowardly U.S. aggression;" place and date not given]

[Text] Once again, the United States has carried out a barbaric aggression against the Baghdad of glory and Arabism. It has targeted women, children, and all the sentiments of power and jihad of our nation. This aggression was carried out because Iraq's triumphant leader Saddam Husayn embodies the will of our nation's new awakening. This cowardly and treacherous U.S. aggression shows a crystal clear fact to all the honest sons of the nation and to the consciences of all honest men in the world. This fact is that the U.S. Administration's feverish efforts to renew the unjust blockade on Iraq's lofty people is in tandem with its efforts to liquidate the Palestine question and our people's historic inalienable rights through bilateral negotiations.

The American-Atlantic-Zionist aggression against Iraq, with all its chapters, was linked to this evil alliance's attempts to liquidate our national Palestinian cause and to strike at our people's struggle. This is because Iraq is a firm and principled defender of our nation's rights and its fateful issues, foremost of which is the Palestine question. Also because it has a capable force that can transform this firmness into accomplishments in all fields. This was particularly clear when the U.S. Administration attempted to exploit what it believed would be the results of its treacherous 30-state aggression, in order to impose a settlement through the conspiracy of negotiations. The United States found nothing other than the weapon of crime, which is represented by the continued blockade and aggression, to confront Iraq's steadfastness in the face of its schemes, particularly after it was capable of foiling all the chapters of its aggression and of building a lofty Arab edifice through the reconstruction campaign and through development in all fields.

The new U.S. aggression is a link in the chain of attempts to impose hegemony over our nation to subjugate it and to control its resources. This aggression is also part of all the hostile American practices that constitute an encroachment on Arab soil and a serious threat to our national security, whether through its treacherous aggression against the fraternal Somali people, or its escalating threats to the Arab countries that oppose and reject its plans.

While denouncing this treacherous aggression, we call on all the sons of our heroic Palestinian people and glorious Arab nation to express their anger over and denunciation of the aggressive American-Zionist practices through escalating the valiant intifadah, standing in Iraq's trench, rallying around its banner of jihad, working to break the spiteful blockade imposed on it, hitting the imperialist interests and their pillars, and escalating all forms of popular struggle in order to deter the aggressive

American schemes and their objectives. Concerning this cowardly aggression, the question reimposes itself strongly about the international will that is mortgaged to America, and about the false international legitimacy by which it covers its practices against peoples. This necessitates that all honest people in the world stand to defend their dignity and resist the policy of hegemony and containment.

Iraq, which stood fast in the face of all forms of aggression, will continue to raise high the banner of the Arabs' pride, the banner of God is great under the leadership of the mujahid knight Arab leader Saddam Husayn. Through the zeal of his sons and the will of his people and the honest sons of the nation, he will remain the brandished Arab sword in the face of its imperialist, Zionist, and Atlantic enemies. He is capable of foiling all the chapters of aggression and its objectives for the sake of developing our nation and bolstering its triumphant march on the road to achieving all its objectives.

God is great, and revolution until victory!

The Arab Liberation Front Central Committee

Paper Regrets Destruction of Long-Range Missiles

JN3006181593 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1710 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Three days after the U.S. missile attack against the Iraqi intelligence headquarters and following the U.S. Air Force's strike against an Iraqi air defense position yesterday, the official Baghdad paper AL-JUMHURIYAH in today's editorial criticizes the Iraqi Government for having agreed to destroy its long-range missile arsenal in implementation of the international resolutions dealing with the Gulf war.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says: Had our missiles been in our possession, U.S. President Bill Clinton would not have dared strike our cities. Baghdad would have replied to the centers of aggression in Riyadh, Kuwait, and Tel Aviv. The paper wonders about the reasons that made the leadership agree to these resolutions. AL-JUMHURIYAH also wonders if this will deprive us, too, of our strategic strike force which protects Iraq and its people?

AL-THAWRAH on 'Impudent' U.S. Letter to Iraq's Envoy

JN0107124693 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Jul (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has said that the letter Madeleine Albright, U.S. representative at the United Nations, handed to Iraq's permanent UN representative—which she called points for discussion—indicates the terrible abyss into which the United States has fallen as far as moral and civilized dealings among states and peoples are concerned.

In an article today by its Chief Editor Taha al-Basri, the paper adds: This letter confirms that the United States can only deal with others with the mentality of the U.S. cowboy, who levels his rifle and fires indiscriminately, expressing brute force which cannot be deterred or curbed by any law.

AL-THAWRAH continues: The U.S. letter's language and impudent phrases are actually in line with the U.S. Administration's conduct after it has appointed itself as the world policeman, based only on its sophisticated weaponry and not on any moral standard emanating from charters, norms, and laws which organize relations among states.

AL-THAWRAH stresses that the Iraqi reply, which stemmed from the legitimate defense of sovereignty and dignity, was made in order to throw a stone at those who prepared this letter and teach them a lesson they will long recall.

Concluding its article, the paper says: The Iraqi reply expressed the fact that Iraq is not intimidated by threats and hollow cries. Hollow threats will not bat an eyelash of any Iraqi child, the paper adds.

Writer Urges 'Direct Punishment' of Kuwaiti Rulers

JN3006154693 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 28 Jun 93 p 3

[Article by Nuri Najm al-Marsumi: "The New Crime, Who Is Responsible?"]

[Text] Who is responsible for perpetrating the crime of the new aggression? As we know, the aggression claimed the lives of righteous martyrs, women, children, and old people. The ravens of America have frightened innocent people in Baghdad. Contrary to the claims of the shaky U.S. President, his defense secretary, and the chief of staff of his army, their missiles have once again sought civilian targets, just as in their second aggression when their missiles targeted the al-Rashid Hotel. This time, they targeted and killed people in the areas of al-Mansur, al-Yarmuk, and al-Harithiyah in dear Baghdad. Who is responsible for this crime?

To begin with, the crime was perpetrated after instigation by the corrupt rulers, the agents of foreign oil companies, the agents of U.S. intelligence, and the servants of Zionism in the city of Kuwait. These criminals were not satisfied with the crimes of lies, theft, forgery, and instigation against our people immediately after they defiled the dear land of Kuwait. In fact, they have gone too far, and are still doing so, to harm the people of Iraq and their great revolution.

This corrupt clique is supported by the masters of Zionism in America and the Zionist entity, who are pursuing Iraq in a desperate attempt to abort its revolutionary experiment after the 30-state aggression, the subsequent aggression, and other hostile provocations

failed to undermine the essence of the unique Iraqi experiment, embodied in the firm and principled ideological and political will of the historic leadership of President Saddam Husayn.

The third party to the crime, and the one who endorsed it, is the criminal U.S. Administration and its weak president, who suffers from several inferiority complexes, beginning with his weak character and hesitation in making decisions, and ending with his utter failure to tackle world crises such as Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the crime of annihilating the sons of the Somali people who reject invasion.

The criminals must not escape punishment this time. We should know full well that the only means to stop the criminal rashness of the traitors of the homeland and the agents of the foreigner, the corrupt al-Sabah shaykhs, against the Iraqi people is punishment, direct punishment.

The pure blood of our martyrs call on us to retaliate. To safeguard our people's security and stability requires revenge on the killers. If we really want to protect our people, then, from now on, we should not give the shaykhs of the city of Kuwait time to sleep. Tomorrow will come soon. Ignominy to the criminals. Victory will always be the lot of our great people and their mijahid leader.

Editorial: Airstrike Strips U.S. of World Prestige

JN3006185593 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Jun (INA)—Under the headline "What Prestige Is There Left for the United States?", the INA international affairs editor says: The U.S. aggression against the city of Baghdad, which claimed the lives of several righteous martyrs, has confirmed three facts that stripped the United States of any prestige inside and outside the United States. The first fact is that this action is void of any legal basis. The claim that they based their action on Article 51 is a flagrant violation of sovereignty. This article, as specialists in international law say, allows the use of force when the UN Security Council adopts a resolution in this regard. What happened is that America carried out its action and then asked the UN Security Council to convene to discuss the aggression. It failed to gain the support of all the council's members, despite the efforts it exerted and the contacts it held with the capitals of the UN Security Council member states and its allies in order to issue statements supportive of the U.S. aggression.

The international affairs editor adds: The evidence the United States presented was indecisive and unimpressive. In addition to this, the United States was not exposed to an aggression which justified use of Article 51 of the UN Charter in this flagrant and exposed way. We would like to refer to Article 24B of the draft air war agenda of 1922 signed in The Hague which set forth rules safeguarding the humanitarian aspect of war and defining targets allowed to be bombarded from air. However, it does not say anything about killing civilians or destroying their homes.

The editor wonders: How can the United States allow itself to use UN Charter articles without consulting the United Nations? How can it give itself the right to believe the evidence and then implement the resolution?

And why this disdain for the Security Council and international legitimacy? How can the United States carry out its criminal, terrorist, and cowardly action and ask the Council to provide a cover for aggression? After all this, does the Security Council still respect the United States?

The second reality is that among most Arab and international media organs, as well as world observers and political figures, there is a consensus that Clinton committed this act of aggression to distract attention from the domestic crisis and his failure to fulfill the campaign promises he made to the American people, including a promise to develop domestic investments, projects, and society and to save it from its suffocating problems and crises.

The international affairs editor adds: Even if we assume that Clinton intends to deal with the U.S. economic situation, can this weak man deal with all these problems? Moreover, we should stress the fact that any dealing with the U.S. domestic economic situation will harm those with an interest in pushing the United States toward aggression against peaceful countries, including Iraq. Zionism also does not want to see U.S. domestic reform or even an interest in it, because such reform will constitute an important factor in stopping spending on adventurous aggressions abroad.

The international affairs editor says: Does the U.S. President still enjoy any prestige? Does the U.S. citizen still have any prestige within the United States? What prestige can the U.S. Administration still have when it does not fulfill its promises to carry out the economic reforms, on whose basis Clinton was elected as president?

The editor affirms that the third fact the world knows is that the U.S. citizen is not free to travel in the world because the U.S. Administration uses its power in an unjust manner against the countries in the world. U.S. Administrations issue advisories to the U.S. citizen and place him in a state of fear and apprehension. But, the Clinton administration, for the first time, has called on the U.S. citizen to be more than usually cautious against the backdrop of the missile attack against Baghdad, as seen in the U.S. State Department's two advisories last Sunday and Tuesday. With what prestige has the U.S. citizen been left, or, for that matter, the United States?

The editor says the U.S. Administration, thanks to its unjust power, can pursue aggression, demolish houses, kill women, children, and elderly people, and scare defenseless citizens, but it cannot restore to the U.S.

citizen the prestige he enjoyed before he lost his freedom of movement in the countries of the world.

The editor adds: All honest people in the world look at every U.S. citizen with anger in view of the rash policy the weaklings in his administration use against the peoples in the world. Does the United States still have anything to save face? Does the U.S. citizen still have any prestige in the world?

The international affairs editor concludes: They have lost everything without gaining anything. This is because the challenge and reconstruction taking place on Iraqi territory, the land of civilizations, completely negates their values because the model this land, people, and leadership embody is the Islamic Arab model and because the model the steadfast and paitent people want to emulate is their great leader Saddam Husayn, who is the guarantor of the present and the future we will win, God willing.

Paper Cites Bush on Clinton's Foreign Policy Skills

NC3006145693 Paris AFP in English 1251 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, June 30 (AFP)—Iraq's ruling party newspaper said Wednesday [30 June] that former U.S. President George Bush was right about one thing ... the foreign policy skills of Bill Clinton.

"It's a fact: the U.S. attack showed that Millie, Bush's dog, is better versed than Clinton in foreign policy," said AL-THAWRAH newspaper, referring to Sunday's missile attack on Baghdad.

The Ba'th party daily was borrowing a line from the campaign for last November's election in which Clinton ousted Bush from office.

"Clinton attacked Iraq without giving his crime a legal cover by addressing himself first to the (U.N.) Security Council, the way Bush did" during the Gulf crisis, it said.

Prank Calls to al-Rashid Hotel Threaten 4 Jul Acts

NC3006164893 Paris AFP in English 1629 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, June 30 (AFP)—Journalists and others at Baghdad's al-Rashid Hotel are receiving mysterious phone calls from a man who identifies himself as "Tomahawk" and who promises to visit them on July 4, U.S. independence day.

Operators at the hotel said he had telephoned 10 times a day since U.S. Tomahawk cruise missiles struck Iraq's intelligence headquarters on Sunday [27 June], reportedly killing six civilians.

"My name is Mister Tomahawk. I'm calling you from the United States and I'll visit you on July 4," the caller told guest Michel Hajj, a correspondent for the U.S. network WTN [as received].

The caller asked Hajj to reserve a room for him on the 14th and last floor so he can see "Baghdad burn."

Hotel operators said "Mister Tomahawk" sometimes asks to speak to the receptionist and sometimes to be connected to the rooms.

On January 17 a Tomahawk missile struck the al-Rashid Hotel, killing two employees during a U.S. attack on what Washington described as a weapons-making plant south of Baghdad.

The January attack occurred three days before U.S. President George Bush, Iraq's arch foe in the Gulf war, left office. A mosaic of Bush was later laid into the floor of the hotel lobby where guests walk.

Washington said it fired the cruise missiles on Baghdad Sunday in retaliation for an alleged Iraqi plot to assassinate Bush during a visit to Kuwait in April.

Memo to UN Protests U.S. Fire on al-Basrah Site

JN3006164793 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Iraq has informed the United Nations that two U.S. aircraft fired an air-to-surface missile at an Iraqi air defense battery position in the al-Basrah Governorate.

In a memorandum addressed to the UN secretary general, Iraq's permanent representative to the United Nations said that the two aircraft were of the F-15 type, and that they carried out their hostile provocative act yesterday, Tuesday, 29 June. A citizen was hurt in this act of aggression.

He added that this new unjustified treacherous act of aggression, which is part of the series of aggressions carried out by the U.S. Administration against Iraq, gives new proof of the United States' determination to harm Iraq and its people and to undermine its security and sovereignty.

Protests Flare Dropping in North

JN0107080893 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Iraq has informed UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus-Ghali that hostile U.S. aircraft have dropped four flares over the village of Qawagh, al-Kuwayr Subdistrict, in Irbil Governorate, setting fire to fields in the area.

The letter says the U.S. aircraft's continued dropping of flares is further evidence of the U.S. insistence on harming Iraq and its people, and infringing on its security and sovereignty.

Note to Arab League Protests Airspace Violations

JN3006171993 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1605 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jun (INA)—Iraq has lodged a protest with the Arab League about the Saudi and Kuwaiti rulers continuing to make their facilities available for American, British, and French aircraft to violate Iraq's airspace and to threaten its security, sovereignty, and national unity.

In a letter addressed to the Arab League secretary general, Iraq's permanent representative to the Arab League said these aircraft violated Iraq's airspace on 25 and 26 June, taking off from their bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, and carried out 114 hostile sorties.

A list of these violations was attached to the letter.

Minister Says 264,738 Children Die Due to Blockade

JN3006141293 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 24 Jun 93 pp 1, 2

[By Ghazi al-'Ayyash]

[Excerpt] Umid Midhat Mubarak, health minister and acting labor and social affairs minister, has said that as of April, 1993, 264,738 children had died as a result of the blockade. Of those, 93,850 were under five and 170,888 over five.

The health minister told AL-JUMHURIYAH that the Security Council Embargo Committee has blocked life-saving medicines, such as anesthetics used in caesarean operations and in other operations lasting several hours. [passage omitted]

Sanctions Committee's 'Aggressive Behavior' Condemned

JN2606075193 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0736 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jun (INA)—The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH has said that the behavior of the Sanctions Committee and the committees that visit Iraq reveals an aggressive tendency. This has been demonstrated by these committees' rejection of the most basic humanitarian, religious, and health requests submitted by Iraq in accordance with international law and UN resolutions.

In an article under the headline "The Sanctions Committee and Its Aggressive Behavior," the paper says that the deliberate rejection of Iraq's humanitarian requests was and continues to be the result of U.S. control over the decisions of international institutions, circumventing international law and nations' freedom, sovereignty, and political independence.

The paper adds that the role of the UN secretary general has become hostage to the aggressive behavior of the UN committees, including the Sanctions Committee, noting this such behavior is the product of U.S. control.

The paper refers to the frequent visits paid by these committees under various pretexts. Indicating that most of these committees implement the instructions of the U.S. intelligence service, the paper says that the story of David Kay and others are known in the marathon of crises and anti-Iraq policies that are designed to put pressure on Iraq and weaken its national and pan-Arab role.

The paper explains that the role assumed by agent and treasonous Arab rulers is to undermine the Arab nation's unity and willpower, to weaken Iraq in the service of Zionism and imperialism, and to help the Zionists and imperialists control the Arab region and further loot and exploit the squandered Arab wealth.

The paper says that the Sanctions Committee's aggressive behavior is known and clear to us; it is commanded by the United States and financed by Arab money, which is always spent on this and other similar committees by the al-Sabah family and the Sa'ud regime.

Concluding, AL-QADISIYAH says that the continuation of this conspiratorial behavior will only increase the Iraqis' determination to reconstruct their homeland, consolidate their national unity, and struggle for the Arab nation's unity. As for the agents, a dark fate is awaiting them at the hands of the strugglers of the Arab people and the honorable members of the Arab nation.

Editorial Denounces Blockade, U.S. 'Double Standards'

JN3006160393 Baghdad AL-'IRAQ in Arabic 24 Jun 93 pp 1, 6

[Editorial: "The United States and the Blockade"]

[Text] Honest people throughout the world know well that Iraq has dealt with Security Council resolutions with an open mind and a desire to reach serious solutions to outstanding issues. It has done much to meet those resolutions, although they are illogical and violate even the simplest principles of international law ensuring nations' right to development, progress, and sovereignty.

Everyone knows the way these resolutions were issued, the circumstances in which they were adopted, and the evil and hostile role the United States and its allies played in forcing the Security Council to bow to U.S. desires, as well as the explicit and implicit threats leveled against some parties to approve these ill-reputed resolutions.

The recollection of some of the facts related to this issue is necessary for an understanding of the motives behind U.S. determination to prolong the unjust blockade and to use every means to harm Iraq and double the sufferings of its sons—motives that in all cases, are political

and based on the U.S. Administration's illusions and its inability to foresee the facts that have emerged in the past few years.

Therefore, it is not strange for the United States to reject other states' calls to discuss the blockade imposed on Iraq, to falsify the facts, and to press the United Nations to deny that Iraq has implemented the international resolutions, particularly Resolution 687, because the opposite will simply mean that all justifications for maintaining the blockade will cease to exist.

We can understand U.S. nervousness toward Iraq and its patient people only in the context of the policy of double standards, which has become the main feature of the age of unilateral control of the world following the collapse of the Soviet Union, and also in the context of a thorough understanding of the current international situation. Is there anything more surprising than the unjust blockade going on under the cover of international legitimacy, while the United States rudely violates that legitimacy every day in many parts of the world? The Somali example is the most obvious of these violations.

What is more surprising is that the United States and the other hostile parties have fabricated many pretexts to distort Iraq's objective response to the United Nations. These pretexts include the so-called Kuwaiti captives. Here, we have to state that Iraq is more concerned about our people there than the rulers who are imposed on them. In light of this, Iraq behaves and maintains its relations with all the sons of our people in the Kuwait region who are suffering from their rulers' tyranny and injustice. These rulers have accepted humiliation and surrendered to the will of the imperialist-Zionist alliance.

In this context, we need to deal objectively with the facts on the ground and with the U.S. policy of falsification and blackmail. Only then can we make a decision that can be termed as legitimate and that can restore the credibility the United Nations has lost in many parts of the world.

However, the Iraqis, who have proven their excellent ability to overcome difficulties through a high militant spirit, will be in harmony with themselves, their history, and their ability to deal with the unjust blockade. All the obstacles the evildoers have used to hamper our progress toward a brilliant future will collapse, with God's help, and through high morale, creative work, and faith in the justice of the cause.

PUK Radio Reports 'Popular Uprising' in al-Basrah

NC3006172393 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1705 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Our special correspondent reports that huge crowds in al-Hayyaniah quarter in al-Basrah staged a popular uprising against the regime's repressive establishments on 25 and 26 June. They imposed their complete control on the quarter after storming the Ba'th party headquarters and all the regime's departments and establishments.

The source said the angry crowds, suffering from deteriorating living conditions, high prices, and starvation, carried out the people's [death] sentence on 23 Ba'th party members with the rank of comrade. The source added that the Iraqi regime's forces regained control of the quarter after surrounding it and after violent confrontations with the rebelling masses. They arrested over 1500 people whose fate is still unknown.

IRNA Reports 3,000 Arrested

LD3006160693 Tehran IRNA in English 1533 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., June 30, IRNA—A source among dissident Iraqis said here Wednesday that the Iraqi regime is making it difficult for Muslims who wish to visit Imam Husayn's (AS) holy shrine in Karbala. He said the shrine is guarded by soldiers who, on baseless excuses, prevent visitors from entering the shrine, although the gates to the holy shrine are kept open. [passage omitted]

The same source said that the Iraqi regime has also recently arrested and incarcerated as many as 3,000 people in al-Hayyaniah near al-Basrah, in a bid to prevent anti-government demonstrations.

Every year there have been frequent anti-government demonstrations in al-Hayyaniah during the month of Muharram.

Officials React to Draft Declaration From U.S.

Rabin Said Dissatisfied

TA0107085293 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0805 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Telephone talk between Tamar Golan in Paris and Mikha Friedman in the studio on the "As of Now" program—live]

[Text] [Friedman] We have Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's initial reaction to the terrorist attack in Jerusalem. Good morning, Tamar Golan, MA'ARIV correspondent in Paris:

[Golan] Good morning. I attended the prime minister's meeting with 150 businessmen this morning, when he cut short his address and said: I have to tell you about a very tragic thing that happened in Israel. He went into great detail about the terrorist attack, especially lamenting the car driver's death. He said that he believes the State of Israel should do everything possible to prevent similar attacks but that the borders cannot be hermetically sealed. He also said he believes the closure imposed exactly three months ago is fulfilling its goals, although it cannot be complete. He said the affair is still under investigation, but luckily there was an additional roadblock that managed to stop the car.

[Friedman] Did he refer to reports from Washington about the inclusion of Jerusalem and the manner in which it was included in the U.S. document submitted to the parties yesterday, as well as to the connection between the document and the attack?

[Golan] Rabin was naturally very cautious when giving his first public reaction. All he was willing to say was that we approved the original document submitted to us by the Americans, and he made it clear that we would be ready to operate on the basis of that document. Any change will be received with regret. This was the prime minister's brief and dissatisfied reaction.

[Friedman] Thank you, Tamar Golan in Paris.

Beilin: U.S. Move Anticipated

TA0107072593 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Telephone interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin by Mikha Friedman and Goni Mardor on 1 July—recorded]

[Text] [Friedman] We spoke with Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin approximately one hour ago. Our first question referred to this morning's contradictory media reports about Israeli reactions to the U.S. paper, which ranged from dour to positive. We asked Dr. Beilin for his official reaction to the U.S. document.

[Begin recording] [Beilin] No, I will not be the first to react to this document. The only thing I can say is that after the 10th round, which can be summed up as two-and-a-half weeks of treading water without any progress and even with somewhat of a setback on the Israeli-Palestinian track after the Jerusalem issue was again hurled at us by the Palestinians, the U.S. paper is the only thing that happened in this round of talks, and it is only natural that it should be discussed. Both sides expected this U.S. move, although the Americans hesitated for a long time about whether to make it. Their decision to submit their own paper at the end of the round is an important move, and the two sides will have to discuss it as soon as possible, despite the fact that the United States has referred to the paper as unofficial, nonbinding, and so forth.

[Mardor] This makes the United States an active partner in the negotiating process. Is the paper liable to provide grounds for disagreements with the Americans, in addition to those with the Palestinians?

[Beilin] No one ever thought the American proposals would be identical to the proposals of either of the sides. It is natural that the American proposal should be midway between the various proposals and that the sides should regard it as a basis for future negotiations. Without referring to the contents of this paper, I think both sides should be ready to view it as a basis for future negotiations, while not endorsing all its specifics.

[Friedman] The Americans were expected to address the status of Jerusalem in future stages of the process. Is that what happened?

[Beilin] I can say only one thing: Jerusalem will not be part of the autonomy. The Palestinians can raise whatever issue they wish with regard to the permanent arrangement, but our stand with regard to the permanent arrangement is that Jerusalem will remain the Israeli capital under our sovereignty. The question of how this matter should be formulated is secondary. There is no controversy in Israel over this issue, and the Palestinians know it. In my opinion, their insistence on raising the Jerusalem issue proves that their approach is not serious at this point.

[Friedman] This morning's DAVAR cites the American document as stipulating that each side will be able to bring up any issue in the discussions on the permanent arrangement. Is that not a formula even Yitzhaq Shamir could accept?

[Beilin] This formula is very reminiscent of one discussed two years ago, which stated that no element would be able to force any element to sit with any element. It is the kind of formula with which everyone can live. For the past 25 years, we have been saying that we would be ready to discuss the permanent arrangement without preconditions and that everyone may raise any issue they want. If that is all the document says, I do not see any problem, and I do not think the Palestinians will have any problem with that. What matters is that

they should know our real stands on the Jerusalem issue with regard to both the interim and the permanent arrangements.

[Mardor] Have you seen the document yet, Dr. Beilin?

[Beilin] I am unable to refer to the document.

[Friedman] According to several newspapers, the U.S. document asks that the sides respond today. Can you confirm at least this report?

[Beilin] I can confirm that the Americans would like to have a prompt response to their paper. I do not believe the work on this paper will be concluded today. It will definitely continue during Dennis Ross' visit to the region. Furthermore, I will meet with Djerejian in Moscow next week, and I assume he will address bilateral and multilateral issues. Both sides are bound to make intensive efforts vis-a-vis the Americans in connection with the document in the weeks preceding the 11th round of talks. [end recording]

Sarid: Document 'Relatively Favorable'

TA0107084693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Telephone interview with Environment Minister Yosi Sarid by Hayim Zissowitz—live]

[Text] [Zissowitz] Good morning, Minister Yosi Sarid.

[Sarid] Good morning, Hayim.

[Zissowitz] Israel has evident cause for satisfaction with the fact that the issue of Jerusalem will not be part of the autonomy discussions, but is there no room for concern over the U.S. proposal to discuss it in the framework of the talks on the permanent arrangement?

[Sarid] Of course there is room for concern, but I do not think the United States could produce a paper that would make one side happy and the other side utterly unhappy. There is naturally room for concern, but I think the U.S. document is relatively favorable for Israel. Therefore, I can surmise—I cannot be certain—that Israel will probably endorse the paper in principle.

[Zissowitz] And yet the Palestinian reactions seem to show that they are very unhappy because their fundamental stands were rejected. Under these circumstances, will the U.S. document achieve its goals of conciliating between the sides?

[Sarid] I sincerely hope so. I do not think the Palestinian conduct was appropriate, and I have said as much throughout the recent round of talks. They heaped obstacles on the path of the negotiations by raising two matters that should have been left for the end of the process: One is, of course, the Jerusalem issue, and the other is the matter of the territorial jurisdiction [preceding word in English] of the autonomy. I think they made a mistake, and as a result the negotiations reached a deadlock.

I sincerely hope both sides will view the U.S. document as an appropriate basis for progress, even if there are points they deem unfavorable. After all, none of the sides can afford to forgo progress. The impression after the last few days is that the negotiations have stalled, and I am therefore glad that the Americans submitted this document, which definitely affords an excellent basis for progress.

[Zissowitz] Yet it has not promoted anything. Do you think things that were not achieved during this round will be achieved during the visit to the region by Dennis Ross and the U.S. team, possibly with the help of the document or of some amendments they will introduce?

[Sarid] Again, I can only hope, but if this round and Dennis Ross' visit next week do not promote progress, I think each side will have to think again and reach its own conclusions. That includes the Israeli side and the Israeli Government. They may very well think of other ways to tackle the problems.

[Zissowitz] Do you think Israel should officially announce its endorsement of the document? Such an official announcement would be tantamount to a declaration that Jerusalem is negotiable—if not in the framework of the autonomy talks, then later during the talks on the permanent arrangements.

[Sarid] I am surprised at the response to this formula. Israel found it acceptable for many years. It was acceptable to Menahem Begin; it was acceptable at and after Camp David. It was stated then that each party to the negotiations can raise any issue it wishes. I think this is the only logical approach to this matter. It does not mean that we accept the Palestinian position. Naturally, we do not accept the Palestinian stands on many issues, including and particularly this one, but the approach that a certain issue should not be allowed on the agenda in another three years, when the negotiations on the permanent status of the territories are launched, seems to me very strange. The Israeli stand on the Jerusalem issue is well known. It is known that we will not compromise on the issue of Jerusalem, but the other side may raise any issue it pleases, just as we may raise any issue. Would we accept a total Palestinian rejection of our right to raise a certain issue? We would find such an attitude strange and reject it.

To sum up, while Israel may not rave about the U.S. formulation, it is definitely acceptable. We saw it as a reasonable formulation in the past, and I do not exactly understand why it should elicit a different response this time.

[Zissowitz] Thank you very much, Minister Yosi Sarid.

Editorial Says Ross Visit Aimed at 'Arm-Twisting'

TA0107111393 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 1 Jul 93 p 2

[Editorial: "Surprising Joy"]

[Text] The joy with which Israeli spokesmen received the American compromise proposal, as though it were some long awaited breakthrough, can only arouse surprise. For years—in fact, since the start of the Israeli-Arab conflict—we have made direct negotiations our aim. We said: This will be the test of the Arabs' desire for peace. Now the Americans have taken upon themselves not only the role of middlemen but also the active role of master of ceremonies of the negotiations, and we have jumped for joy.

Their intervention may bring about a breakthrough, but the question is where that path will lead. From what has been uttered by the few Israelis in Washington who have had the privilege of studying the American document, it does not bode well. The Americans have bypassed the main obstacle to progress in the peace talks—the Jerusalem issue—but they have not removed it altogether. That obstacle will await us when we reach the negotiations on the permanent arrangement, three years after the establishment of the autonomy, and only on the condition that the Arabs agree to the American detour. Hanan 'Ashrawi's remarks that there will be no agreement without a discussion on Jerusalem perhaps signals that the success of the American exercise is not assured.

The test will come in a week's time, when Dennis Ross and his entourage arrive in the Middle East to receive the Israeli and Arab answers and to do a little arm-twisting to make sure the answers are affirmative. The feeling is that it will be mainly Israeli arms that will be twisted.

Rabin Comments on Territories, Jerusalem Issue

PM3006114893 Paris LE MONDE in French 30 Jun 93 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Patrice Claude and Jean-Pierre Langellier in Jerusalem; date not given]

[Text] Israeli Prime Minister Rabin is expected in Paris Wednesday, 30 June, on a three-day official visit. During an interview with LE MONDE, he proved to be unbending on the question of Jerusalem, declaring that it could not be raised by the Palestinians during the current stage of the bilateral negotiations under way. "If the Palestinians demand Jerusalem, they can write off the chances of an agreement," he affirmed, continuing to claim Israeli sovereignty over the whole of the Holy City.

[LE MONDE] The closure of the occupied territories and East Jerusalem seems to once again reduce the peace process to deadlock.

[Rabin] Listen, our stance on Jerusalem is well known: The city is our capital, united under our sovereignty. There will be no compromise of any kind on this issue. That is our position, and we will stick to it come what may. There has been national consensus in Israel on this issue since July 1967 (the date of the conquest of East Jerusalem). The Americans know our position. They are well aware that during the interim period the city will not under any circumstances be placed under the provisional jurisdiction of the Palestinians.

[LE MONDE] Why would the Palestinians, who have the bulk of their institutions in Jerusalem, give up their claim to the eastern part of the city?

[Rabin] I am not asking them to do that. I am just reiterating that we are negotiating an interim settlement today, which concerns only the areas under military administration. Jerusalem is not one of those areas.

[LE MONDE] Will it therefore be possible to discuss it during the second phase?

[Rabin] There is no question today of negotiating the final, permanent status quo. Sovereignty and border questions will be tackled later, from the third year of the transitional phase. Let us wait and see what questions are raised then. For the time being, I repeat, it is not on the agenda.

[LE MONDE] But the Palestinians want nonetheless to be sure right now that they will be able to raise the question of Jerusalem....

[Rabin] During the second phase of the negotiations, the participants can attempt to raise all the questions they want.

As far as we are concerned, our position is clear: We need not give our go-ahead right here and now to questions that the Palestinians may want to raise during the final negotiations.

[LE MONDE] You ordered Jerusalem to be closed three months ago, citing reasons of security. But a few days ago you gave in addition a considerable political reason by emphasizing that the annexation of East Jerusalem was thus plainer for the world to see....

[Rabin] I took my decision for reasons of security. That said, we think that this closure really shows that Jerusalem is indeed a city united under our sovereignty....

[LE MONDE] What are you doing with the 150,000 Palestinians in East Jerusalem? (Note: Following the widening of the old city limits in the eastern sector of Jerusalem, this year for the first time since 1967 the number of Israeli Jews slightly exceeds the number of Arab inhabitants in the east of the city.)

[Rabin] All Israeli governments have offered them Israeli citizenship. Very few of them have accepted. That is their problem. I don't think that this is a major issue today. Were it to be made a key problem, there would quite simply no longer be any possibility of an agreement.

[LE MONDE] But all the major Palestinian institutions—religious, cultural, medical, economic, and political—are located in East Jerusalem. How can you expect the Palestinians to purely and simply abandon them?

[Rabin] Listen, it is useless going any further. If they demand Jerusalem, they can kiss their chances of an agreement goodbye.

[LE MONDE] However, the letter of invitation to the negotiations that you accepted does clearly state that during the interim phase all parties will refrain from unilateral acts that might affect the permanent status of the territories. Does the closure of Jerusalem to 1.8 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza not violate the letter of this document? Furthermore, given the intensive construction of housing for Israelis in Jerusalem, the Palestinians are saying that if they wait another two years before embarking on negotiations on the city, they will have nothing left to negotiate.

[Rabin] Let me tell you once again that our position on Jerusalem is clear and simple, period. You are putting too much emphasis on this. If the problem of Jerusalem is raised now, there will be no agreement. And the Palestinians will be the first to suffer as a result.

[LE MONDE] Can we suppose that there will at least be a return to the previous situation, where Jerusalem was open to everyone?

[Rabin] It is true that Palestinians had total freedom of movement throughout Israeli territory. The closure checks freedom of movement. I would remind you all the same that 50,000 Palestinians (as opposed to 120,000 before the closure) today still have the right to come and work in Israel. We are facilitating as much as possible freedom of access to East Jerusalem for students, lawyers, medics, etc. The city is not closed to all Palestinians.

[LE MONDE] When all is said and done, is there any option for Jerusalem other than total annexation, as far as you are concerned?

[Rabin] Listen, during the interim phase Jerusalem will not be placed under the authority of the Palestinian Executive Council. It is too early to tackle the issue of what will be done during the final negotiations and the questions that will be raised.

[LE MONDE] So, there is no question of reverting to the previous situation?

[Rabin] What is decided for Israeli sovereign territory regarding the movement of Palestinians will also apply to Jerusalem. That's all.

[LE MONDE] Why do you think no country in the world, not even the United States, has recognized the annexation of Jerusalem, unilaterally decreed by the Knesset in 1980?

[Rabin] Ask them. As far as I am concerned, explaining other people's position is not my business. As far as I know, the U.S. position is that Jerusalem must remain united and open, its permanent status only being discussed during the final phase of the negotiations.

[LE MONDE] Has the closure of the territories reestablished the former green line separating them from Israel?

[Rabin] Some people in this country are accusing me of having effectively restored this line. That is wrong. In plain terms, I am making a clear distinction between Israeli sovereign territory, incorporating unified Jerusalem, and the territories not under our sovereignty. We have closed off the territories that come under military administration. As I told you, we did it mainly for security reasons. That has given rise to some problems. But I do not want the situation to become like it was when over 120,000 Palestinians were able to go wherever they wanted in Israel. Besides, the closure of the territories has put an end to the exploitation of some of these workers by unscrupulous Israeli employers. Today those authorized to work in Israel receive a fair wage and enjoy social protection. Their work is organized and monitored. (Note: Before the closure of the territories around half of the 120,000 Palestinian workers were working in the black economy, earning well below the minimum legal wage and with no social protection).

As for security, three months into the closure, our decision has attained its objective. It has given 97 percent of Israel's Jewish population—the other 3 percent live in the territories—a sense of personal security. And that was the main purpose of the closure. Admittedly, this has created severe economic problems for the Palestinians. That is why we are going to invest over $100 million in infrastructure works in the territories. Just suppose that, for its part, the international community, notably the rich Arab countries, but not only them, had invested $200 million, say. That would have had an extraordinarily beneficial effect on the peace process. Unfortunately, we are the only ones acting on this scale. When it is a matter of making fine statements on the Palestinian cause everyone in the world gets in on the act. On the other hand, there are not many people offering concrete assistance....

[LE MONDE] When you came to power in June 1991 you promised a freeze on Jewish settlements in the territories. However, more than 11,000 apartments, not counting Jerusalem, are currently under construction, which will increase the number of settlers by 50 percent....

[Rabin] When I arrived, there were 18,000 apartments scheduled for construction. We have blocked the construction of 7,000: I put a stop to a whole series of financial and tax incentives for settlement in the territories. I could not do more, for legal reasons.

[LE MONDE] You say yourself that there are no more acts of terrorism in Israel. How can you explain the fact that the number of Palestinian casualties in the territories has not stopped rising?

[Rabin] That is because we are combating Islamic terrorists, particularly those from Hamas and Islamic Jihad, more and more effectively. For eight or nine months now they have been spearheading terrorism in

the territories. Look what is happening virtually worldwide, in the Near East, Algeria, Egypt, Tunisia, Sudan, and Iran. Khomeyni-ism without Khomeyni is spreading throughout the region. I sincerely believe that Iranian-based fundamentalism has terrorist infrastructures throughout the world today. Yoo are not really aware of it in Europe, but we are.

At the beginning of my term, I reduced military strength in the territories. That has, in fact, had the opposite effect to what I expected. Terrorism has increased, particularly that perpetrated by Hamas. This organization has declared war on us. It wants not only to kill as many Israelis as possible, as well as killing Palestinians who are not on its side, but it also, and above all, wants to scuttle the peace process.

[LE MONDE] Are you then, despite everything, going to allow the 400 or so presumed Islamist Palestinians expelled to Lebanon last December to return home at the end of the year?

[Rabin] I have promised to do that, and I will keep my word. Meanwhile we have gotten our hands on Hamas' archives, and we know a great deal more about them as a result. Those who have committed culpable acts will be brought to book. Those who have done nothing will be able to freely return home. That is my pledge.

[LE MONDE] Why are military units in the territories not equipped with appropriate antiriot equipment? Why do soldiers sometimes have no other option than to fire on demonstrators?

[Rabin] They are equipped with nightsticks and tear gas. Admittedly, they do not have riot shields. But that is because they are up against Molotov cocktails, knives, and grenades. As far as I know, it is not large demonstrations that are the danger. That time is past. At any rate, they are no longer the major danger.

[LE MONDE] The fact remains that the majority of the Palestinian victims of soldiers' fire are young stone-throwers and not armed men...

[Rabin] Most of the time the soldiers fire rubber bullets. But they are authorized to open fire in self-defense.

[LE MONDE] Don't recent incidents—insubordination, suicides, Russian roulette, etc.—indicate the growing unrest within an army which has come a long way from its initial job of national defense and for the past 25 years has been a force of occupation?

[Rabin] The incidents that you mention are not increasing, but diminishing. The phenomenon is unfortunately not new. These games of death were different 20 years ago, but they did exist. I don't think that they have anything to do with the areas where the Shahal are deployed. Even though the burden of responsibility on the army corps and reservists is indeed greater today than it was before.

[LE MONDE] You often say that Israel will not withdraw from the Golan Heights as long as Syria has not precisely defined the nature of the peace it is proposing. Suppose it did, how would that guarantee a lasting peace with Syria?

[Rabin] The fundamental issue is whether a real peace can be concluded with an Arab country, given that some of them are unstable by nature and one can never really know for sure if a particular regime will respect its predecessor's pledges. Some people think that it is useless negotiating in these conditions. I do not agree with that approach. Israel cannot wait until democracy has become firmly established in all the Arab countries because then peace would not be possible for decades. We must therefore negotiate now, bearing two major concerns in mind all the time. First, we must assure ourselves that peace leads to frequent contacts between the peoples concerned because that is the only means of laying low the mutual animosities and prejudices. A treaty must therefore translate into open borders with free movement, exchanges of ambassadors, etc. Second, we must always keep a safety margin....

[LE MONDE] Is that why you often say that Israel will never completely come down from the Golan Heights?

[Rabin] Exactly. But unlike those who advocate only exchanging peace for peace, without making any territorial concessions, I think that peace is worth taking risks.

[LE MONDE] To conclude, is it just an impression, or does Israel really regard a certain right of conquest as legitimate? Do you think that, aside from all questions of security, a victorious country is fully justified in all circumstances in keeping part of its territorial spoils?

[Rabin] If we followed the attitude of the allies during World War II then...I don't even want to think in these terms.... No, I think all that should be negotiated. In this sphere it is better to refrain from taking unilateral decisions. One should always try to seek an agreement....

Rabin Aide Calls for Direct Dialogue With 'Arafat

PM3006131493 Rome L'UNITA in Italian 28 Jun 93 p5

[Interview with Hagai Meron, Knesset commission chairman, by Umberto de Giovannangeli in Milan; date not given]

[Text] Milan—"Let us begin experimenting with Palestinian self-government in the Gaza Strip, thus allowing 'Arafat himself to become a direct protagonist in the peace process." That is the proposal put forward by Hagai Meron, chairman of a Knesset commission and one of Yitzhaq Rabin's closest aides.

[De Giovannangeli] What, in Israel's view, are the key factors in an agreement with the Palestinians?

[Meron] The deciding factor, on which the future of the negotiations depends today, is transitional self-government for the territories. This self-government should apply not only to the people but also to the territories of Gaza and the West Bank. We propose to the Palestinians that the transition stage start right now, with free elections to be held in a short time in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

[De Giovannangeli] The Palestinian delegates and the PLO, however, insist that the relationship between the transition stage and the final outcome of the negotiating process be defined as of now.

[Meron] I do not think that laboring that point will help overcome the current impasse in the negotiations. But that does not mean that we will avoid referring to the territories' final status in any way.... In our view, as Labor Party members, the best solution would be for a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation. But any negotiator, including Rabin, is well aware that the final status could also be different, including setting up an autonomous and independent Palestinian state.

[De Giovannangeli] In this, the 10th session of the peace talks, the Palestinians have raised the issue of Jerusalem. Do you think this is an insuperable obstacle on the road to peace?

[Meron] Jerusalem undoubtedly represents the most delicate problem in the peace process, not only for political or security reasons. The Jews "feel" Jerusalem as the "sacred and inviolable capital"; furthermore, all the Zionist parties maintain that Jerusalem must stay united, under Israeli sovereignty. I believe, however, that the Palestinians have been forced into raising the Jerusalem issue today by the fear of ending up tomorrow with a fait accompli: the city's complete "Hebrewization." We owe it to them to provide an answer to their worries.

[De Giovannangeli] What would that be?

[Meron] Immediate recognition of the right of Palestinian residents in Jerusalem to vote and be elected in the Palestinian self-government council. Israel could then define Jerusalem's boundaries in response to the concern expressed by the Palestinians not to see the city area growing day after day until it ends up engulfing West Bank cities such as Ramallah. These two measures could assuage the Palestinians' fears and enable discussion on the city's status to be postponed to a future stage in negotiations.

[De Giovannangeli] Is sealing Gaza and the West Bank not likely to complicate the talks even more?

[Meron] I am well aware that this measure is causing serious discomfort to the Palestinian population. In terms of the talks, however, it represents a historic break with the past. In other words, it sanctions separation between Israel and the territories which the Palestinians are to administer. Isolation is the first step toward sanctioning the existence of two separate entities: the Hebrew state and the Palestinian state. Among other things, that means the investment of huge economic and financial resources—not only by Israel but by the entire international community—in the territories, in order to create new infrastructures and jobs.

[De Giovannangeli] The Palestinians are calling for direct PLO involvement in the peace talks. The same appeal emerged during the Milan conference. What is your opinion on the matter?

[Meron] The Israeli Government's official position is rejection of formal dialogue with the PLO. But everybody, including the prime minister, is perfectly aware of the primary role played by the PLO in this process. Personally, I think it is necessary to go beyond implicit recognition of the PLO's role and set up direct dialogue with Tunis, i.e., with 'Arafat. I am convinced that this historic "unfreezing" will occur in the very near future.

Commentary Finds Fault With Rabin's Judgment

TA3006135793 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 30 Jun 93 p B1

[Commentary by Gid'on Samet: "Rabin Versus the People"]

[Text] The government's self-promotion campaign this week failed to mention one very important element. Something undocumented in any government report has taken place over the past year: There has been a decline in the prime minister's ability to function. Rabin himself has not changed, but an accumulation of problems has highlighted his difficulty in dealing with tough issues. Again and again, Rabin's main problem seems to be with himself. Rabin does not believe in his own strength, and the inevitable result is that people have also started to lose faith in him. If I were asked to point to the one major issue in government this year, that is what I would choose. Even the handling of a minor issue, such as the government's achievement report, portrayed Rabin in an unfavorable light. Nothing good came out of it, and the prime minister could have stopped the whole affair if he had reigned in his director general from the beginning. It did not require a great deal of intuition. From the very outset, Eytan Haber, the prime minister's media adviser and the man in charge of Rabin's image, hated the idea of the achievement report and the media circus that would follow. Haber made his opposition known and accurately predicted the outcome of the affair.

Rabin also failed to show much prudence or good judgment by publicly voicing his unreasonable opposition to the submission of a Likud rebuttal to the president's report. After all the brouhaha over the government's achievement report died down, the prime minister then gave unwarranted magnitude to Likud Chairman's Netanyahu's meeting with Weizman. Mainly, Rabin failed to realize that his reservations would only cause him embarrassment and invite a retort from the president. All this would only be worthy of the

marginal attention befitting such a negligible issue, had it not again shed light on a recurring problem of Rabin's judgment.

This problem appeared in its most irksome form during the peace negotiations. After admitting he was wrong to allocate less than a year to attain results, Rabin continued to pursue a path that might stretch failure well into the next year. We may indeed be dealing with unbalanced adversaries. We have already heard all about how the Palestinians are once again shooting themselves in the foot. But Israel's handling of the negotiations, under the prime minister's very personal supervision, is far from satisfactory. From Washington, Rabin's judgment is increasingly being viewed as no simple matter.

The issue is so complex that more and more observers and commentators are beginning to doubt whether Rabin has any clear idea where he wants to go. Or in other words, the question is whether he uses good judgment in selecting his goals. Even after thoroughly examining the issue, for example, I still cannot understand the reason for his objection to the inclusion of Jerusalem in the discussions of a permanent settlement. He does not have to promise, or even imply anything now; he just has to accept what was already agreed to by Begin.

It does not require prolonged contemplation to realize that Jerusalem will feature in the negotiations on a permanent settlement even if Israel rejects any concessions (just as Begin obviously planned to do). Instead of a relatively simple formula (Begin agreed to discuss "all issues"), Rabin is getting us all entangled in the Jerusalem issue. A more creative approach by the prime minister—and Rabin's lack of creativity as a statesman is a key tenet—would enable us to weaken the obsession to deal with Jerusalem now, precisely because of the (noncommittal) readiness to discuss the issue some time in the future.

Rabin's sense of judgment has also led to additional complications in the negotiations due to his refusal to discuss the future of the arrangements in "all sectors" and the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. Why is the prime minister so annoyed by these phrases? We keep hearing the same hackneyed arguments about the terrible dangers these phrases conceal, but these formulations appeared in the Camp David accords. Stubborn old Menahem Begin already accepted them 15 years ago.

Not only skeptical critics question the prime minister's ability to function. In a country in which, contrary to most Western countries, a leader in power generally rises in popularity, Rabin has been consistently losing ground. A Hanokh Smith survey last week had similar findings: The right wing would today defeat the Rabin coalition 51.5 percent to 42 percent. Fifty-six percent are dissatisfied with the government's handling of the peace process; Rabin and Netanyahu are tied at 35 percent (with 25 percent of the respondents dissatisfied with both of them).

The paradox is that Rabin believes in the need to cautiously soothe the nation through indirect means, while his public apparently wants something else. The people still support Rabin, but Rabin is against the people. Does Rabin not have a mandate for territorial concessions? The very question is ridiculous. Not just in the constitutional sense, but more importantly, because he still enjoys the support of his voters. Rabin's greatest miscalculation is his blindness to the freedom given him to act in the peace negotiations.

Rabin's has taken an overly narrow approach to his election-night vow to be the one calling the shots, and if he continues to purposely tie his own hands, the most dire question of all pops up: Perhaps he is not just cautious and hesitant? Perhaps Rabin is convinced that this is really the most appropriate way to handle the negotiations? If that is the case, then we and him are in store for a lot of trouble further down the road, both politically and otherwise.

Impact of U.S. 'Isolationism' Assessed

TA0107102393 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Jul 93 p B1

[Commentary by Dan Margalit: "Good for the Process, Hazy for Peace"]

[Text] Yitzhaq Rabin is maneuvering with balance and restraint to achieve peace. During his year as prime minister, he has offered plenty of concessions, which has kept the Arab delegations at the negotiating table, and he has exercised sufficient restraint to convert the settlers' cries into whimpers.

So far, this policy has prevented a crisis with the United States, even if there have been tough moments. Yesterday in the Netherlands, Rabin told Qol Yisra'el correspondent Hayim Hecht that no Palestinian-Israeli joint document will be signed and that there will probably be no tripartite declaration. If it is only an American announcement that is issued, it will not correspond identically to all the Israeli positions.

Nonetheless, Rabin has achieved an understanding with the United States, unlike the tension that characterized relations between Yitzhaq Shamir and George Bush. The Palestinians, who now more than ever long for James Baker, know that Israel can usually live with Warren Christopher's formulas and that Jerusalem currently also enjoys U.S. media support.

When was the last time an Israeli Government read an article like Jim Hollanger's in THE WASHINGTON POST, in which he wrote that the Arabs should remember that they lost the Six-Day War and that they have to pay some price for their aggression? The Syrian delegation was furious. It is not used to such a stand in the newspaper that calls the shots on the U.S. East Coast.

Nevertheless, although Rabin can reassure himself about the understanding he reached with Bill Clinton, we

cannot ignore the concern that it was achieved partially due to the stupor in Washington, which is in no hurry to pressure the sides.

That approach is not unique to the Middle East conflict. In the wake of the Cold War, the United States is developing a new type of isolationism. It is not going back to the days of George Washington over 200 years ago, in which it tried to turn its back on the Old World, but the Clinton administration wants to withdraw to its glorious isolation between the two large oceans and peek out from time to time, when it has no other choice.

The liberal bloc, which has always urged involvement in the Old World, including sending U.S. Armed Forces to Europe twice in this century, and has now returned to its traditional role after its Vietnam fiasco, is not managing to get the State Department globally involved.

The United States is behaving this way not only toward the Middle East but also toward the rest of the world. Russia invites the most famous U.S. columnists and employs top bankers, and like an orchestrated choir they all urge Clinton to grant Boris Yeltsin real aid, but to no avail so far.

Russia has almost given up. Flora Lewis wrote in THE NEW YORK TIMES this week that the bitter joke now making the rounds in Moscow distinguishes between a realist and a dreamer. The former hopes that creatures from outer space will save Russia from economic ruin. The dreamer believes the Russians can extricate themselves from their plight. Even the joke does not take the Americans into account.

The world is waiting for dollars and is not being heard. Ukraine is wary about giving up its nuclear weapons as long as it does not receive American aid. North Korea does/does not agree to supervision of its nuclear power. There are already exasperated Americans who believe that the spread of lethal weapons cannot be prevented and that their administration has to be prepared for that.

Even the United States is not rich enough to buy all the nuclear weapons arsenals. It has no more than limited interest in Somali hunger and the fate of the minorities in Turkey and Germany. The liberal bloc cries out in all the U.S. media for intervention in Bosnia, and while Clinton and Christopher are making moves that would appear to indicate that they want to join in a solution of the problem, in practice they are dodging the issue.

Furthermore, despite what has been shown and heard about the massacre in the former Yugoslavia, the administration has the ability to put U.S. public opinion against the top commentators in its media. The United States does not really care. Its White House, which feeds on the Little Rock mentality, has not heard of Otto von Bismarck, who called policymaking the art of listening to God's movements through history, jumping behind him, and holding onto his coattails.

This decline in American involvement in the world makes it easier for Israel in the foreseeable future. It frees Rabin from tough diplomatic pressures and enables him to advance toward a political accord, if he really has the required amount of grit, but it does not necessarily bode well for peace in the long run.

'Terrorists' Fire at Bus in North Jerusalem

TA0107052593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Four passengers were wounded by shots fired by a terrorist at a No. 25 bus in the vicinity of the police headquarters in north Jerusalem. Two passengers sustained serious injuries and two others were slightly injured. The terrorist escaped by car, and the police have placed roadblocks at the exits from Jerusalem. Massive forces aided by two helicopters are hunting for the terrorist in the Jerusalem area, the Judaea District, and the Ramallah area. [passage omitted]

'Terrorists' Killed at Roadblock

TA0107063993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0600 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Excerpts] The terrorists who are believed to have perpetrated the attack on a No. 25 bus were shot and killed at a roadblock in Jerusalem's Gilo neighborhood. They ignored orders to halt, and according to an eyewitness, a woman who was inside the car tried to throw a hand grenade at policemen and soldiers manning the roadblock. The car went up in flames.

Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that earlier, two terrorists had opened fire at passengers aboard a No. 25 bus as it was driving past the city's police headquarters. They wounded the driver and two passengers [as published]. One of the passengers was seriously injured. Another sustained moderate wounds, and a third was slightly wounded.

The terrorists, armed with a rifle and a handgun, fled in what is believed to have been a Renault 5 vehicle, although it is unknown whether they hijacked the car or whether it was waiting for them. They drove southward to the Gilo neighborhood, where they encountered a roadblock. The identity of the car's female driver, who was killed along with the terrorists, is being investigated. It is unclear whether she was one of the group or was driving the car after it was hijacked by the terrorists.

It was discovered later that the terrorists had left two explosive charges on the bus. [passage omitted]

Knesset Member Yehoshu'a Matza, chairman of the Knesset Internal Affairs Committee, will convene the committee next week to discuss this morning's attack in Jerusalem. According to him, the terrorists are stepping up their attacks in order to force more concessions from the government. He further said that the terrorist organizations believe that bloodshed and terrorist attacks will make Jerusalem the capital of the Palestinian state.

Moledet leader Rehav'am Ze'evi said terrorist organizations are responding with attacks and murders to the concessions the prime minister is showering upon the Palestinians. Ze'evi urged the prime minister to suspend the Washington talks immediately and until there is a total cessation of all terrorist activities.

'Terrorists' Linked to Hamas

TA0107143193 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Arab injured in this morning's terrorist attack in north Jerusalem was wanted by the authorities and belonged to the 'Izz al-Din al-Qassam squad of Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement].

The man, 'Uthman Salah Mustafa, is a 22-year-old resident of the Jabalyah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. Several ammunition cartridges were found in his pocket; however, the police say that there is still no proof that he was connected to the terrorist squad involved in the bus attack.

Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that the two terrorists killed in the attack also apparently belonged to Hamas.

Hostage Also Killed

TA0107073893 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0700 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Excerpts] It seems that the woman who was killed at the roadblock in Jerusalem's Gilo neighborhood was a Jew who was taken hostage by the two terrorists, who hijacked her metallic gray Renault 5. The terrorists did not heed the calls of the soldiers at the roadblock to halt. At that point, the soldiers opened fire and killed them, as well as the woman who was driving the car. These were the same terrorists who had earlier this morning attacked a No. 25 bus in Jerusalem. Two passengers, a woman and a man, and the bus driver were wounded in the attack. The terrorists fled the site, apparently after commandeering the vehicle in which they made their getaway.

In another incident in Jerusalem, a Jew opened fire at Arab passersby. The incident took place in the northern sector of the city on Hana Street, near the Apiryon wedding hall. The Arabs tripped as they tried to flee and were injured. Five of them were taken to Hadassah-'En Kerem Hospital.

On Eshkol Boulevard in the city, bomb disposal experts are currently defusing an explosive charge. It seems that the terrorists who attacked the bus tossed it aside during their flight.

Booby-trapped grenades were found this morning in the city's Ramot forest. This may very well be the site from which the terrorists set out to attack the bus. [passage omitted]

Tzomet leader Refa'el Eytan believes that the attack in Jerusalem is the Arab response to the U.S. compromise document. It must be made clear to the Arabs that if they want to pursue the peace talks, they must renounce terror immediately, Eytan said. [passage omitted]

Ran Kohen, chairman of the Meretz Knesset faction, rejected demands to call off the peace talks. According to Kohen, such a move would play into the hands of the terrorists and would encourage them to go on staging attacks in the heart of Jerusalem. The reactions of the Knesset members were reported by our correspondent Yo'el Nir.

Netanyahu Comments on Attack

TA0107104693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Likud party leader Binyamin Netanyahu praised the security forces for their quick response to the Jerusalem attack. Netanyahu said also that Israel was now in the throes of a battle for the status of Jerusalem and for its future in both the political and security spheres. And within the struggle, the terrorists should be confronted uncompromisingly, and the American compromise document, he said, should be rejected.

Baraq Comments on Attack

TA0107150193 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Chief of Staff Ehud Baraq said that the courage and quick reaction of the bus driver, as well as the rapid deployment of the police force and the IDF [Israel Defense Forces], precluded a mass terror attack or the seizure of hostages for bargaining purposes in Jerusalem. Baraq asserted that despite our pain and regret about the casualties, the incident had concluded successfully.

In an interview with our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe, Lieutenant General Baraq stressed that although Israel had dealt the Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] organization a severe blow, it entertained no illusions that Hamas had disappeared. The chief of staff added that the closure of the territories could not completely prevent terrorist attacks.

Abu-Zayyad Condemns Attack

TA0107095493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0805 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Telephone interview with Ziyad Abu-Zayyad, member of the Palestinian advisory committee, by Dalya Ya'iri on the "It's All Talk" program—live]

[Text] [Ya'iri] Do you link this morning's events in Jerusalem with the Washington process?

[Abu-Zayyad] I certainly do not. I certainly do not. First of all, on a purely logical basis, the developments in Washington did not leave sufficient time to plan and

carry out such an operation, which must have been planned long before the development in Washington.

[Ya'iri] Who stands behind this kind of attack?

[Abu-Zayyad] I am waiting for the conclusions of the official investigation. The security forces are probably investigating, and they will be the first to know who is behind the operation.

[Ya'iri] Such an attack may reinforce the government's assertion that the closure should be even tighter.

[Abu-Zayyad] I was thinking the very opposite. I think the closure on Jerusalem inflamed the atmosphere, agitated the population, and placed the issue of Jerusalem at the top of the Palestinian agenda, as far as the Palestinian man in the street is concerned. If the closure on Jerusalem is called off, it will help remove the Jerusalem issue from the agenda, and the people will have no reason to use the matter of Jerusalem to incite and enlist the population against the peace process and against the situation in general.

[Ya'iri] The impression is that the Palestinian delegation placed Jerusalem on the agenda in an attempt to stall the talks.

[Abu-Zayyad] In my opinion—which I have repeated many times—Jerusalem was placed on the negotiating table as a direct result of the closure on Jerusalem and, in general, as a result of the ongoing construction in Jerusalem. Therefore, the Israeli side was responsible for raising the issue of Jerusalem and for forcing the Palestinian delegation to stop turning a blind eye to what is happening to Jerusalem.

[Ya'iri] Events such as today's attack can only put off the hope for peace negotiations even further.

[Abu-Zayyad] Listen, we expected things like this. Of course, any progress the peace process makes is bound to be followed by a counterreaction on the part of the opponents of the negotiations and of the peace process. I expect such things from both the Jewish and the Arab side, but we should not give in to or accept this kind of pressure. We should not give up; we should pursue the peace process until a solution is found.

[Ya'iri] Is there no authority in PLO-Tunis or your own leadership that can prevent such attacks and call on the population to stop them?

[Abu-Zayyad] Look, we do call on the population to stop the attacks, which we view as sheer terrorism directed at civilians. We believe this must stop, because it harms the Palestinian cause, the peace process, and future relations between us and Israel, as the two sides are destined to live together in this region. Yet some people exploit the situation and the difficulties of the negotiations and of the people, whose plight was caused by the closure—notably, the closure on Jerusalem. They are exploiting the population in their quest to exacerbate the situation. We must understand this and avoid assisting their scheme involuntarily.

[Ya'iri] Do you personally condemn the attack?

[Abu-Zayyad] As I told you, we view today's event as a terrorist operation against innocent civilians. What else do you want me to say? Condemnation is pointless, although we all clearly condemn it as terror. A civilian walking in the street or riding a bus should not become a target. You know, one of the bus passengers wounded this morning was a Gaza Strip Arab. There were similar cases in the past when both Jews and Arabs were killed, as was the case in the incident in which an Israeli and two Arab vegetable vendors were murdered. I see these three as a symbol of the tragedy in whose midst we all live. Therefore, we must make every effort and call upon every available resource to put an end to this terror, to improve the climate, and to create a peaceful atmosphere between us. Genuine progress in the peace process is the true answer to the violence and terror around us.

[Ya'iri] Thank you very much, Ziyad Abu-Zayyad, adviser to the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks.

[Abu-Zayyad] You are welcome.

'Terrorist' Receives 8 Consecutive Life Sentences

TA0107133793 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 1 Jun 93

[Text] The Gaza military court sentenced 25-year-old Basim Shuraytah al-Kurd from Bayt Lahiyah to eight consecutive life sentences for the murder of Moshe Beno and 'Amiqam Zaltzman in a Gaza Strip packing house approximately one year ago. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that al-Kurd, a member of Hamas' [Islamic Resistance Movement] 'Izz-al-Din al-Qassam squad, participated in several other attacks against Israeli soldiers and citizens. He has also been convicted of murdering seven Arabs who were suspected of having collaborated with the authorities.

Vietnam's Deputy Foreign Minister To Visit

TA0107102693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] The Vietnamese deputy foreign minister will arrive in Israel in about two weeks on the first visit of this kind. Our political correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that steps toward the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries will be decided during the visit. The guest will also discuss economic cooperation between Israel and Vietnam.

Prime Minister Confers With UNRWA, World Bank Officials

JN3006133793 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1100 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] At his office today [30 June], Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali received the UNRWA [United Nations Relief and Works Agency] Commissioner, General Mr. Ilter Turkmen. Talal al-Hasan, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Dr. 'Adil Irshayd, director general of the Palestinian affairs department at the Foreign Ministry, also attended the meeting.

Discussions at the meeting dealt with the conditions of the Palestinian refugees and the services UNRWA offers them.

The prime minister said efforts should be pooled at the United Nations to improve the financial position of UNRWA in order to offer better services to the refugees in their camps.

Mr. Turkmen said UNRWA is eager to continue its services to the Palestinian refugees. He thanked the Jordanian Government for its constant cooperation with UNRWA to render all possible services to the refugees.

The prime minister said Jordan is concerned about the conditions of refugees in the occupied Arab territories, particularly because measures applied by the Israeli occupation authorities are causing the refugees much suffering and hardships. The prime minister appealed to the international community to exert its efforts to alleviate their suffering.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Turkmen conferred with Mr. Talal al-Hasan on the financial difficulties facing UNRWA and the services it offers to the Palestinian refugees.

Today, Prime Minister al-Majali also received at his office Mr. Ram Chopra, director of the Middle East and European Department at the World Bank. Planning Minister Dr. Ziyad Fariz and the delegation accompanying Mr. Chopra attended the meeting.

The prime minister and the World Bank delegation discussed the economic efforts of the government. The prime minister said the government is determined to continue its efforts to improve standards of economic performance and to foster development.

Mr. Chopra said the World Bank welcomes the economic policy charted by Jordan. He said this economic policy is an indication Jordan is making an economic recovery and going ahead with its development projects in a healthy way.

Minister Denies Contacts on Israeli Road, Bridge Links

JN3006112693 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 30 Jun 93 p 1

[Excerpt] An official source at the Ministry of Public Works and Housing has commented on an AFP report from occupied Jerusalem that the Israeli occupation authorities intend to construct a bridge over the Jordan River in cooperation with the Jordanian authorities.

According to the report, these authorities also intend to construct a road linking Haifa Port with the city of Irbid.

The source said he does not have any information on this subject, and there have been no contacts made regarding it. [passage omitted]

Brotherhood Demands Release of Political Detainees

JN2406154493 Amman AL-BA'TH in Arabic 23 Jun 93 pp 1, 11

[Text] The Islamic Movement deputies, the Muslim Brotherhood, have demanded that all political detainees and their confiscated property be released, and that compensation be paid for those harmed. Reports indicate some political detainees have been detained for several weeks.

In a statement on human dignity and citizens' rights, the Islamic Movement deputies sought a government commitment to only arrest citizens according to law, and to issue a statement through the news media affirming the right of Jordanians residing outside Jordan to return home and be treated according to law.

The statement called for halting the security organs' interference in appointments in the public and private sectors. It also called for establishing clubs, societies, and houses to teach the holy Koran, as well as dealing with Jordanians returning home from Afghanistan, as faithful citizens who are loyal to their homeland and nation and who carried out a duty on behalf of their people and homeland, and who deserve appropriate recognition instead of being thrown in jail.

The statement pointed out that these deputies' speeches, memoranda, and meetings with various officials, with the participation of the Public Freedoms Committee, have stressed their profound concern at the encroachments of some government organs in terms of arrests, searches, confiscation of some property, and interference in both appointments and the establishment of clubs and societies, as well as preventing citizens from returning home. Although the competent authorities promised to end these practices, the real situation is not in line with these promises, the statement added.

Editorial Questions al-Qadhdhafi's 'U-Turn' Toward West

JN2906083193 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 29 Jun 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Big Question for Big People"]

[Text] Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is about to complete a U-turn from where he stood in the 1970s and the 1980s. The revolutionary leader is making this move simply to please Western powers that not so long ago he viewed with suspicion as imperialists and enemies of his people, his country, and all of the Third World.

To improve his relations with the Unitd Kingdom, Mr. al-Qadhdhafi last year revealed confidential information about his old allies, the Irish Republican Army. This week he pledged to surrender two of his people to the U.S. black activisit Jesse Jackson who would arrange for their trial in the West for their alleged involvement in the bombing of a Pan Am jet over Lockerbie, Scotland. This was something al-Qadhdhafi only a few months ago vowed he would never do.

As Libya's conflict with the West continued and escalated through the 1980s, Mr. al-Qadhdhafi has been hopping back and forth between his decades-long revolutionary ideals and overtures to appease Washington and its Western allies in the hope of easing the tension.

The offer to hand over the suspects to Reverend Jackson is one of the many stunts Mr. al-Qadhdhafi has performed in his bid to return to the graces of the West. On Sunday, the Libyan leader sent one of his protocol cars to the Tunisian border to pick up Iraeli peace activisit Abbie Nathan who says he is in Libya to get Libyan concessions for Israel; also, quite unthinkable by the Libyan leader a few years, if not months, ago. And to top it all, U.S. President Bill Clinton has become "a bright star coming from the Western hemisphere, really clean, with no complexes," in the eyes of Mr. al- Qadhdhafi. It is not clear how bright Clinton remains to al-Qadhdhaf after he Sunday sent his Smart missiles to brighten the Iraqi skies. Mr. Clinton should learn a lesson from Mr. al-Qadhdhafi's change of heart; sanctions work, even when they are partially applied. What al-Qadhdhafi has yet to find out, along with many others in the world, is if succumbing to U.S. pressure works too.

The other pressing, indeed bewildering, question that remains is how the Libyan people, or for that matter any other people, should react when they feel that their future is subject to the whims of individuals and their countries' destiny hostage to the policies of leaders who place their own interests above those of the nation.

UN Envoy Urges Lifting of Bosnia Arms Sales Ban

JN3006192993 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] 'Adnan Abu-'Awdah, head of Jordan's permanent mission to the United Nations and chairman of the Arab group at the United Nations this month, has called on the Security Council to exclude the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina from the ban on arms sales to former Yugoslavia, to enable it to defend itself against the aggressor Serbs.

This came in a speech he delivered in the name of Jordan's delegation and on behalf of the Arab group, during a Security Council session held last night to discuss the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

He said the Arab states, who respect the UN Charter and adhere to its provisions, seek to live in a world of peace and security with confidence in international institutions. They think the road to this is still open.

He asserted that the continued ban on arms sales to the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina means the United Nations does not abide by its Charter. It means that the attitude toward Muslims has other indications.

He wondered with such features, what will the new world order look like?

* Company in Partnership With Macedonia Importing Lambs

93BA1050Z Skopje VECER in Macedonian 18 May 93 p 9

[Article by J.P.: "Lamb Is Being Flown to Jordan"]

[Text] Yesterday, one more cargo plane carrying lamb meat took off from Skopje airport for Jordan's capital city. So far, six airplanes carrying 220 tons of lamb and 10 tons of veal have flown from Skopje to Amman. The price of the meat is $2,300 per ton.

This is a good solution to selling lamb by the Republic to other countries, especially after the imposition of the embargo on the selling of lambs and lamb meat to the members of the European Community, based on the claim that they had contracted glanders and mucositis. The importance of this agreement with the Jordanian company is enhanced by the fact that it will keep ordering meat as long as it has an open line of credit in the bank and as long as Macedonia has lamb for export.

Another important fact, according to Mirko Lekovski, director of the Skopje Stokopromet Export Enterprise, is the resumption of collaboration with the Jordanian company with which business relations, above all in terms of marketing Macedonian live lambs and lamb meat date back to 1952/53 but, for some reasons, had become "frozen." Now, one more company in Jordan has become interested in our lamb and veal.

The agreement reached between the Macedonian and Jordanian partners stipulates that twice weekly (Mondays and Thursdays) lamb and veal will be shipped to Jordan from Macedonia exclusively in cargo airplanes. No possible less expensive mode of transportation was contemplated because of blocked transportation by land through Turkey by our carriers, as we know, although Turkey had bought meat from Macedonia in the past, it has now accepted the EC resolution.

Katyushas Fired at Security Zone; No Casualties Reported

TA2906163393 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Some 30 katyusha rockets were fired at the security zone in south Lebanon in the past two hours. Our correspondent Yo'av Aviv reports that a 13-katyusha volley was fired from the area of Yatar. Another volley of three rockets landed in the area of the village of Hanin. At the same time, more than 13 katyusha rockets were fired at the Hasbayya area in the eastern sector. [A related report on Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1605 GMT on 29 June adds that "no casualties were reported in the katyusha attacks."]

The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and the SLA [South Lebanese Army] continue returning fire at the sources of the rocket attacks in both sectors.

Hizballah leader Shaykh Hasan Nasrallah said in a newspaper interview that his organization is not divided.

More Operations Staged Against Israeli Forces

NC3006174993 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpts] In a clear message to the Lebanese negotiator to force him into unreasonable commitments that go beyond the legitimate rights that constitute the basis for the negotiations, Israel undermined the security situation in south and western al-Biqa' yesterday. Villages adjacent to the occupation forces' position came under successive Israeli attacks. [passage omitted]

We start this report from western al-Biqa' where, at 1830 yesterday, the Islamic resistance attacked the Tumat Niha position that overlooks western al-Biqa'. Fierce clashes ensued with the enemy and his agents manning the position for around one hour during which rockets and machine guns were used. The Israeli artillery provided cover for this position and shelled the villages in the area in an attempt to ease the pressure on the position. Personnel manning this position were killed or wounded.

This attack was preceded by a large-scale clash between the Islamic Resistance fighters and an Israeli patrol near Tallat al-Ahmadiyah that also overlooks western al-Biqa'. Resistance sources said that the resistance fighters men ambushed the Israeli patrol and attacked it with rockets and machine guns. The clash lasted around half an hour and its outcome is not yet known. The enemy forces shelled the hills of Jabal al-Dahr, Birkat al-Jabbur, and the vicinity of Maydun.

The Islamic Resistance lost two martyrs in the clashes, one of them from Yuhmur in western al-Biqa' named 'Imad Husayn. Another Resistance martyr, 'Ali Husayn Murtada from Tibnin al-Tahta in Ba'labakk province, will be buried today. [passage omitted]

The Islamic Resistance issued several statements on the confrontations in the south, confirming that its fighters attacked five positions manned by the occupation forces and their agents in al-Hamra', al-Bayyadah, al-Hirdawn, and Jabal Safi. It said that fierce clashes took place during which the enemy suffered heavy human and material losses. In one of its statements, the Islamic Resistance said that an explosive device was detonated near an Israeli patrol on the al-'Ayshiyah-al-Rihan road and that the patrol personnel were killed or wounded. The agents' radio admitted the operation and said that two agents were injured.

Israeli Forces Send Reinforcements to Border Strip

NC3006170393 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] With the closure of all crossings leading to the occupied border strip today and after a long day of clashes and exchange of artillery and rocket fire between the resistance on one hand and the occupation forces and their agents on the other, the Israeli occupation forces at dawn today sent 10 armored vehicles to the Hasbayya front, opposite the liberated areas. They were deployed in Zummarayya, 'Ayn Qinya, and Shwayya. The occupation forces also sent a similar number of vehicles to the hills of al-Ahmadiyah and Kawkaba, which overlook Western al-Biqa'.

Sources Deny SLA Involvement in Child's Death

TA2906141993 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1330 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] According to a report released in Lebanon this afternoon, a 10-year-old child from the village of Shaqra was killed by SLA [South Lebanese Army] troops in the fire exchanges going on since this morning.

Speaking with our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz, security zone sources denied the report. They said the SLA had not fired at that village.

It has been learned from the UNIFIL [UN Interim Force in Lebanon] command that Hizballah carried out 50 attacks against the security zone in the course of the past month.

Cabinet Briefed on U.S. Missile Attack, Other Issues

JN2906161793 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1510 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Damascus, 29 Jun (SANA)—The Cabinet convened under Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi at 1100 today.

The Cabinet studied the work of the services, economic, and cultural committees.

Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' outlined Arab and world developments, with special emphasis on the 10th round of the foundering bilateral talks thanks to Israel's intransigence.

The foreign minister also briefed the council on the outcome of the Vienna World Conference on Human Rights and the U.S. missile attack on Baghdad. He stated Syria's abhorrence of double standards in international relations, especially regarding state-sponsored terrorism to which Arabs in the occupied Arab territory and Bosnia's Muslims are subjected. [passage omitted]

'Text' of al-Shar's Address at Human Rights Conference

JN2906060093 Damascus SYRIA TIMES in English 19 Jun 93 p 3

["Text" of speech by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna on 17 June]

Mr. President,

On behalf of the Syrian delegation I would like to express our full satisfaction for your assumption of the presidency of this important conference held in Vienna; this beautiful, historical capital. I am confident that your expertise and wisdom in addition to the efforts you have exerted and your perseverence in the convening of this World Conference on Human Rights would significantly contribute to bringing our deliberations to the desired outcome.

I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to express my thanks to the Secretary General of the United Nations for the efforts he exerts to strengthen the role of the United Nations and the issues of peace and human rights. I likewise express my appreication of the efforts made by Mr. Ibrahim Fall, the General Secretary of the Conference in order to ensure the success of our endeavours.

Since the dawn of histry the issues of human rights have been at the core of man's continuous struggle against slavery, oppression and injustice and for the attainment of a dignified human life longing for freedom, justice and equality.

On this occasion I wish to point out that one would be mistaken to believe—either due to ignorance of history or because of pretence of ignorance—that the issue of human rights is a recent phenomenon, since almost all old civilizations deal with human rights in one way or another. Some of these civilizations even enacted legislations in this respect, the remains of which are still engraved on stone existing to this very day such as Hamurabi's legislations which are more than four thousand years old. One would also be mistaken to believe that concepts and patterns of human rights can be imposed by force on other peoples because each people has its own history and each nation has its own heritage and culture which are peculiar to it. Through dialogue and free communication it is possible to bring different peoples and nations closer to each other and to harmonize their manifold value systems and concepts as well as to develop them and sanction them in an appropriate world framework.

We, in this sensitive part of the world, have known through our long history that diversity does not necessarily generate dispute. Our land was the cradle of the three monotheistic religions, whose followers have lived in a historical accord mutually enriching each other. This explains why Arab history has not witnessed such practices as religious or ethnic cleansing which [the] whole world is now witnessing in the midst of Europe or such practices as those that took place in fifteenth century Spain. Instead, the Arabs have known tolerance in its best image and lived, and are still living, for hundreds of years in harmony and cordiality without any discrimination whatsoever whether in colour, race or religion. They also never tried—even when their authority was undisputed in the world—to impose by force on others their beliefs, concepts or traditions. In this historical context, those who are concerned about human rights issues during this era may know that the Arab Caliph Omar Ben Al-Khatab said over thirteen hundred years ago: "Since when have you enslaved people while they were born free?"

We do not claim, nor do we think that any one can claim, that we are living in an ideal world as it was envisioned by prophets and social reformers, though like other peoples on this earth, we aspire to reaching this noble goal. But if there is any one in this World Conference on Human Rights—be it an individual, a government or an NGO—who may claim that they are living in an ideal system that they want to impose on other countries, we feel that such a claim would render them liable to bear an immense responsibility; both moral and material, and we do not believe that they are capable of shouldering or fulfiling it in the most ideal manner.

It seems to us that it is self-explanatory that the fulfilment of such a responsibility requires that principles be put above interests in all circumstances. This means: first the non-resort to double standards or selectivity in dealing with human rights' violations whether these violations were committed by a friendly or unfriendly state, in The West or in the East, in the North or in the South; secondly, to resolutely face racist laws and practices, in the forefront of which is ethnic cleansing and

mass deportations whoever might be their source or cause; thirdly, not to separate between man's basic freedoms: social, economic and political, which means providing bread and medicine to each and every hungry and sick person similarly to providing an independent attorney and fair trial for every one charged; fourthly, the non-resort to arbitariness and undemocratic means in international relations under the pretext of defending the rights of the individual and democratic values. Since the free will of the international community is the result of the free will of individual states. Last, but not least, priority should be accorded in dealing with human rights issues to the violations which are more serious, common and horrifying.

Mr. President,

We are strongly convinced that when these principles, concepts and requirements find their way to implementation in an honest and proper fashion, they will receive the support and respect of all peoples in the world; in that case we shall not find a single state in the World Conference—especially among developing nations—which might object to the appointment of a high commissioner and the establishment of an international court for human rights. A look at the deliberations of heads of state and governments of the Non- Aligned countries during their summit in Jakarta convened last September, demonstrates that more than one-hundred developing countries have adopted these principles and concepts and that the serious concern of these countries focussed on the lack of commitment on the part of developed and influential countries in their foreign policies to these principles, concepts and requirements which are at the core of the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the convenant on civil and political rights and the covenant on social and econmic rights.

The real challenge that is facing the world today, both as peoples and individuals, is not to look for more covenants and instruments to improve the situation of human rights, nor to create new mechanisms to implement these covenants and instruments, but to provide the political will and faith—without any hypocrisy—in the principle that people are equal in the eyes of international law regardless of their colour, race or religion.

In this context many questions arise. These questions might seem at first glance hypothetical but in essence they shake man's conscience and threaten his fate. One cannot help wondering that if the Bosnia Muslims who have been subjected for over a year to ethnic cleansing, mass displacements and rape, had been from another race and faith, would this massacre have lasted until now?

Another question: If the Israelis were the ones to be subjected in thousands at the hands of the Arabs to internment torture and mass displacements, if their children were killed on a daily basis, if their lands were used for settlements for any reason whatsoever, be it security or political, would the world have stood tight-handed all these long years doing nothing?

And a final question: if the Arabs had at their possession what Israel has of weapons of mass destruction: nuclear, chemical and biological and if they had the capability to produce and manufacture all sorts of weapons from tanks to missiles as Israel does, or were they to refuse to ratify the treaty for the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and refuse the international inspection of their nuclear installations as Israel does, would it have been possible for this situation to continue without any international deterrence?

The only answer that friends of Israel in Western capitals offer to all these dangerous Israeli violations, is the claim that Israel is doing all this because it is the victim and the Arabs are the aggressor. Here we wonder whether history, both ancient and contemporary, has ever witnessed such a mighty and arrogant victim, a victim that ironically occupies the lands of others by force, expells more than half of its legitimate population, builds settlements on it, challenges UN resolutions and behaves as if it were above all human beings and above all laws.

In the light of this inhuman reality, where racism is practised more in the dark than in the open, and where historical facts are falsified, and openly known events are distorted, we wonder how the credibility and justice of the New World Order [can] be trusted, or how we can put our trust in the proposed mechanism for strengthening the process of human rights.

What this conference is asked to do prior to appointing a high commissioner and establishing an international court to look into violations of human rights in the world, is to reach an agreement through dialogue on yardsticks and rules which ensure the non- infringment upon states' sovereignty, territorial integrity and to preserve the rights of its people regardless of their colour, race, religion or language; all this requires such courage and political will more than juridicial skills and legal wrangling.

Mr. President,

Despite this gloomy picture of the situation of human rights in the world, we remain truly optimistic as to the future. For history does not regress. When we look into the past and see how most people were drowned in darkness, ignorance and illness we realize to what extent the present is better than the past and that the future will certainly be better than the present.

My country, Syria, who is committed to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and who participated in the formulation of international human charters and covenants, and reflected in its different legislation and laws the humanitarian yardsticks which are encapsulated in these charters and covenants will participate side by side with the international community to bring about a more secure, stable, prosperous and peaceful world for every human being anywhere.

Kuwaiti Journalists Castigated for Anti-Arab Calls

JN3006121093 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0840 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Damascus, 30 Jun (SANA)—In a political analysis today, the newspaper TISHRIN deals with a call issued by two Kuwaiti journalists, Salih al-Shayji and Salah al-Sayir, through the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA', in which they asked the Arabian Gulf states "to sever relations with Arabism and Arab nationalism and open airspaces and borders to Israel."

TISHRIN says that "this deplorable call for breaking from the Arab nation, Arabism, and neighbors, can only be conjured up in dubious minds. It is an isolated call that has nothing to do with the policy of the Kuwaiti Government and National Assembly, a policy which emphasizes the unity of the Arab destiny and action within a united Arab family."

The paper says that "this call in fact demonstrates that certain sick minds are linked to external plots. Arabism is an asset to every Arab country and the disasters and afflictions which the Arab nation has faced are the result of deviation from the tradition of Arabism, its values and principles."

The paper describes the claim that Arabism is an illusion, and that the Arab nationalist movements that call for unity and pan-Arab solidarity are demagogic, as attempts at disinformation and preparing an atmosphere suitable for dealing with Israel, which covets Arab territories and wealth, including Kuwait's oil wealth.

TISHRIN says: "What causes bitterness is that two Arab citizens who, as journalists, are supposed to be responsible, announce that they have nothing to do with Arabism, that they are closer to India or Israel than to Arab countries." The paper adds: "We would like to ask: Is it enough for al-Shayji or al-Sayir to wear hats and jeans in order to become Americans? Will the Americans take them to be fellow Americans, Westerners, non-Arabs?"

The paper says: "Reading al-Shayji's or al-Sayir's calls, one gets the impression that it was the Arabist Arabs who looted the coffers of Kuwait and other Gulf states. The fact is that the losses of Kuwait and the Gulf states were caused by the Western fraud operations connected with Kuwaiti assets in Spain, the Bank of Credit and Commerce International, the Kuwait al-Manakh market, and the Gulf war bills. These funds, which reached astronomical and fabulous figures could have realized a comprehensive development in the entire Arab homeland."

The paper says: "Of course, al-Shayji and al-Sayir forgot that several Arab states, led by Syria and Egypt, rushed to assist Kuwait, that but for these states, Kuwaiti would not have been freed or returned to the Kuwaitis, and that, contrary to the behavior of Western states, neither Syria nor Egypt asked for money from Kuwait. Syria's and Egypt's motives to help Kuwait were based on the principles, values, and traditions of Arabism which the two Kuwaiti journalists call for trampling under foot."

The paper asks: "Is it not a betrayal of kinfolk, religion, and God, for someone to call for trampling Arabism under foot? Have you heard of a Frenchman calling for stepping on his French affiliation? Have you heard of a Russian doing this?"

The paper says: "Such calls, which can only be issued by [words indistinct] are a cause for consternation and denunciation. It is a source of solace to us that these calls are utterly alien to the Kuwaiti Government, Assembly, and people. The Kuwaiti Government and people are committed to Arabism and its message. Those who try to shed their Arab skin cannot convince anyone that they have overnight become inhabitants of Mars no matter how they color their bodies or distort their minds.

The paper criticizes AL-ANBA', which has been known for its Arab stands, for publishing these harmful articles and says: "Arabism is not Saddam Husayn. Indeed, Saddam is a deviator from Arabism. Arabism is not represented by this or that individual."

U.S. Urged To Drop 'Double Standard' Practice

JN3006153993 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The 10th round of the Middle East peace talks is set to conclude tomorrow. This latest round does not look to fare any better than its predecessors. Israel has gone out of its way to waste time, avoid issues of substance, and reject the point of reference for the peace process.

Twenty months and 10 rounds into the talks, the bottom line is still zero. The talks have been futile. They have failed to address core issues on any of the tracks. It is now clear that Israel wants full peace without obligating itself to the UN's resolutions. On the Palestinian track, for example, Israel insists Jerusalem must remain off the agenda. The one thing Israel is prepared to give is nominal self-rule with Palestinian jurisdiction of parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and such matters as security and the settlements left under Israel's exclusive control. Compared to the size of the settlements, what Israel proposes to give the Palestinians is little more than administrative control over small chunks of the West Bank and Gaza.

As for the Lebanese track, things are not much different. The UN Security Council resolution that provides for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territories should not be a subject to haggle about. On that front, the Israelis are making demands incompatible with Resolution 425—security guarantees, buffer zones, and the formation of security committees.

On the Syrian track, the Israelis continue to refuse to pull out of all the Golan Heights, condemning the talks to failure. Syria went to the peace talks in the first place armed with UN resolutions and the land-for-peace formula announced by the American sponsor itself. Accordingly, the entire Syrian Golan Heights must be evacuated and returned to Syria.

It is now common knowledge that full peace calls for full withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, on all fronts. It is unthinkable for Syria to cede a single grain of the soil of the Golan Heights. Nor is it conceivable that Israel can reap the rewards of full peace and still retain Arab territory.

If Israel has so far refused to commit itself to full withdrawal, it is pointless to report any progress in the talks. It makes no sense for the negotiations to address such an item as security before Israel declares itself ready to pull out of the occupied Arab territories.

The Israelis have made hesitant references to a possible withdrawal from territories they occupied in 1967, but, in the same breath, they said they will not define the extent of any pullout before they know the nature of peace with the Arabs. The Israelis insist on skirting the principles on which the peace process was launched, and want to get to the results without addressing the rudiments of a just and comprehensive peace. In other words, contrary to common sense and the point of reference for the peace process, the Israelis want to reap the rewards of the talks before any of the tracks makes any movement.

It is not an overstatement to say the talks have hit an impasse that can only be broken by a turnaround in the Israeli position and an effective role by the U.S. Administration—a faithful translation of the role of an honest, even-handed partner in the peace process. Not that we demand a pro-Arab American slant; all we want from the United States is to side with justice and the UN resolutions on which the peace process was launched, curbing the excesses and temporization of the party that has thwarted the peace process.

The consensus around the world is that it is Israel that has erected barriers blocking the path of peace, and that it is impossible for the talks to get past the starting line unless Washington throws its weight behind the negotiations. It may be said that only if the U.S. Administration commits itself to the UN resolutions and drops the double standard practice will the peace talks emerge from the doldrums brought on by Israel.

Will the United States do that, or will it stick to its current position and thus leave the peace talks locked in a vicious circle?

Afghanistan

Rabbani Discusses Terrorism in Egypt, Security in Kabul

NC2706192493 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Kabul, 27 Jun (MENA)—Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani has condemned terrorist actions in Egypt.

In an exclusive interview with the MENA correspondent in Kabul today, he said that shedding blood and killing innocent people have nothing to do with Islam and what is happening is a distortion of Islam's image. He expressed hope that Egypt will remain a safe and secure country, adding that achieving security and stability in Egypt is not only in the Egyptian people's interest but also in the entire Islamic nation's interest.

Rabbani stressed that Afghanistan will not be a source of trouble for other countries because it believes that the Islamic system is one of security, peace, justice, and granting rights to others.

The Afghan president described Egyptian-Afghan relations as old and historic, adding that the Afghan people's ties with Egypt have been through al-Azhar and cultural and scientific establishments that have had a great effect on the Afghan people.

President Rabbani called for strengthening these relations at a time when the new Afghan state is being built. He called for a real Egyptian presence in all fields, especially the scientific, economic, and political ones. He also urged Egypt to be among the first countries that are helping reconstruct Afghanistan.

Regarding present conditions in Afghanistan, he said that all the state's facilities and establishments have to be rebuilt following the destruction brought about by the past 14 years.

Asked about the current security situation in Afghanistan, President Rabbani said: There are some individuals and groups who have heavy weapons, including groups that have no sense of responsibility toward the homeland. Therefore the leaders recently agreed to collect all these heavy weapons and form the Afghan Army. But there are still some groups outside the capital that are using these weapons to annoy.

In conclusion, President Rabbani appealed to all the Islamic and Arab countries to actively help the process of eliminating the consequences of aggression and reconstruct the modern Afghan state.

Rabbani Urges End to Fighting, Muslim Unity

LD2906201193 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1630 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Speech by President Borhanoddin Rabbani at a religious ceremony at the mosque of the presidential place in Kabul on 29 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted] We know that in our country the bloodshed has not ended. Despite the fact that our faithful and heroic nation crushed the aggressor by its bloody and Hoseyn-like uprising, still, however, deviation among our people has not completely ended. There are still people who, with no sense of responsibility, launch missiles to drag through blood oppressed families, oppressed children, similar to the persecuted family and children of the prophet who were killed under oppression in Karbala'. Everyone should note that every action—any action contrary to Islam, any time that it takes place against Muslims—this action, no matter if it is perpetrated by the ruling apparatus and the ruling powers—is an unlawful act, and one should resist and rise against the oppressors who are at the reins of power and who inflict oppression on the people.

Also those individuals and groups who oppress Muslims should not be allowed to embark on murder. The line of Hoseyn and that of Yazid are quite clear. The line of Hosyn is the line of defense of Islam and Muslims, the prevention of murder and bloodshed of Muslims, saving oppressed Muslims. The line of Yazid is the line of deviation, the line of murder and bloodshed, and the line of [words indistinct].

No Muslim, no individual, no group, no politically powerful person—no one—should allow himself to follow the deviationist path of Yazid and engage in sedition and deviation. We hope that the bloody Karbala' of our country has ended, and henceforth all Muslims who consider themselves the lovers of Imam Hoseyn, the friends of Hoseyn and the followers of the path of Imam Hoseyn will once again reassess themselves. The right of Imam Hoseyn really cannot be finalized by simply grieving and crying on the day of Karbala'. The right of Imam Hoseyn cannot be finalized simply by urging people to be friends, lovers and followers of the path of Imam Hoseyn. The true and sincere friends of Imam Hoseyn are those who neither inflict harm on others, engage in sedition and illegality, nor allow others to engage in sedition and oppression. Neither do they allow their blood to be shed unlawfully, nor do they shed the blood of others unlawfully. We hope that our Muslim nation, all Muslims in Afghanistan—to whichever group they belong, to whichever political group they belong—will, in pursuit of the path of Imam Hoseyn, end the bloody Karbala' of our country and not allow Muslims to resort to arms against each other or engage in killing and bloodshed.

Dear brothers, today our beloved country is facing a very serious and critical situation. With the grace of God,

earlier questions and problems were eliminated as a result of talks and various meetings held both outside and inside the country. We announced a joint government made up of all the groups. The government and the prime minister were sworn in.

Henceforth there is no logic for fighting and bloodshed, fratricide, firing rockets, creating insecurity. It is not an Islamic logic nor is it a political logic. Nobody should, henceforward, be allowed and no one should allow oneself to [words indistinct] our nation to engage in futile fighting, in obscurant fighting and in oppressive bloodshed. No more should we allow our country to live under the conditions of insecurity. If yesterday there were oppressors, who disrupted families in the middle of the night and who dragged children and youths through blood at gunpoint to the killing fields, those oppressors do not now exist. We should therefore no longer make our oppressed families mourn as a result of the firing of the blind rockets, because those two acts are against the line of Hoseyn; indeed, it is the line of oppressors.

Oppression, no matter under which pretext it occurs, is oppression, and is condemnable whether committed by a political party or by a government or a regime.

Thus we should bear in mind this matter. Henceforth no longer should our people live with internecine killing, bloody clashes, and insecurity. We are confident that our brothers have a feeling of responsibility before God, Islam, and the history of Afghanistan. And they should not ignore the fact that any act of disorder or of hindering the better coordination of state business does not only harm a person and a group; our whole oppressed nation and the whole Islamic nation is harmed.

After the 14-year war our country needs security and fraternity. We should stand by one another like brothers. Under no name, political groups, Islamic schools of thought, or tribes and races should we henceforth be separated from one another. Under the roof of Islam, all of us, unitedly, should work together as brothers for the establishment of a powerful and Islamic Afghanistan. The logic of the obscurationist fighting does not resolve any problem. We cannot achieve any legitimate goal by fighting. Fighting creates nothing but hate, clashes, and destruction. Brothers, inspired by the uprising of Imam Hoseyn, may God be pleased with him, we should learn the lesson of fraternity and sincerity, and should try to ensure that our Islamic Afghanistan no longer has clashes, insecurity, and disorder, especially as the taking of the oath of the new cabinet has openned a new road for the reconstruction of our country. Many countries are ready to render humanitarian and economic assistance to our people. We should prepare the ground for reconstruction. We should prepare the ground for the repatriation of all refugees so that our country's people no longer live in pain and hardship, so that no longer will our people, our nation, become the target of accusation and blame. [passage omitted]

Telephone Network Repair, Upgrade Sought

BK0107023993 Hong Kong AFP in English 0125 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By Terence White]

[Text] Kabul, July 1 (AFP)—The testing of telephone links between Kabul and the provinces has begun, but turbulent Afghanistan is still a long way from reliable telecommunications with the outside world, officials say.

"The international telephone system stopped functioning 20 days ago, after rockets destroyed the main satellite link," said Deputy Communications Minister Miruzmuddin.

He said the government wanted to establish a new satellite communications system to replace the Russian InterSputnik link, which had enjoyed "an economic and political monopoly over Afghanistan."

"The ex-Soviet system, which relayed through Moscow, was expensive. It cost 8,000 to 11,000 dollars per channel per month for 19 channels," Miruzmuddin said.

The Soviet-trained engineer, who was communications minister for two-and-a-half years under the former communist leadership, said Afghanistan wanted to join the International Telecommunications Organisation (ITO), whose InterSat link would cost less than 1,000 dollars per channel.

"We have the money and trained manpower to implement this project, and we want to do it as quickly as possible," Miruzmuddin said. "But unfortunately, friendly countries have not offered us the necessary assistance."

He said he had contacted 15 international satellite communications organisations in Britain, France, Germany, Japan and the United States, but that most had still not replied after six months.

A representative of France's Alcatel was tentatively expected here Wednesday [30 June], however, although Miruzmuddin said he had no confirmation of his arrival.

Despite a trip to ITO headquarters in Geneva, and the ability to pay, Miruzmuddin said he suspected outside help was not forthcoming because foreigners fear for their employees' security in the war-torn Afghan capital.

"You must first establish communications with the outside world, and security will follow as a consequence. If they are not willing to send their engineers and technicians, then they should send us the tools and equipment, and we will do the job ourselves."

Miruzmuddin said work was underway to at least restore phone links to provincial centres, and on the 18th floor of downtown Kabul's Telecommunications Building technicians hunched over Soviet- made radio equipment that hummed and crackled as contact was made with the eastern provincial capital of Jalalabad.

"This is the first telephone connection with Jalalabad in over a year," one of the technicians, Mohammad Ali, announced proudly.

"This is just a test, but we hope to have the service working in a week's time," he added.

Early this week, test contact was made with the important northern capitals Mazar-e-Sharif, Maimana, Shibarghan, Pol-e-Khomri, and Hairaton on the Uzbekistan border, Ali said.

"Our main problem is lack of spare parts. We have to cannibalise equipment in order to keep the show going."

After the Red Army invaded Afghanistan in 1979 the Mojahedin resistance cut the regular telephone lines that linked the main provincial centres, leaving only a radio-telephone network.

But it too collapsed early last year, along with the Moscow- backed Afghan communist regime.

It took three months for the radio-telephone transmitter equipment to be carried down from its regular site on one of central Kabul's mountain peaks, which due to the emplacement of heavy weapons there had become a military target for renegade Mojahedin factions battling for control of Kabul.

Ali said a functioning public telephone service would also depend on a steady supply of electricity, which had been cut to the capital since the weekend.

A government spokesman said a renegade Mojahedin commander based near Sarobi, the source of Kabul's electricity about 60 kilometres (40 miles) east of the capital, had cut the power lines.

* Communists Said Returning With King Zaher

93AS0908A London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
13 Jun 93 pp 1,4

[Article by Ahmad Muwaffaq Zaydan: "Communist Plan to Resume Ruling Afghanistan Through King"]

[Text] Peshawar, Kabul, London—Informed Pakistani sources told AL-HAYAH yesterday that leaders of the Afghan Communist Watan Party, which ruled previously, have held a series of meetings in Peshawar (Western Pakistan) recently and that they have agreed in these meetings to contact a number of moderate mujahidin parties to form a unified political front that demands the return of former King Zaher Shah to power.

The sources added that the front's objective will be to pressure the Afghan Government to convene a Loyajirga Council—a council of representatives of tribes and provinces—that includes field commanders, tribal leaders, intellectuals, and ulema in an endeavor by the party to regain the role it lost when former Communist President Najibullah was toppled in April 1992.

Meanwhile, western parts of the Afghan capital were exposed for the third consecutive day to artillery shelling emanating from the artillery emplacements of the government forces, which continue to be controlled by ex-Defense Minister Ahmad Shah Mas'ud. It has been reported that more than 64 persons have been wounded as a result of the shelling, which is a part of the process of settlement of accounts between Mas'ud and the pro-Tehran Shiite Wahdat Party [Islamic Unity Party] that is allied with Prime Minister Golboddin Hekmatyar, Mas'ud's rival.

Peshawar Meetings

Pakistani sources have told AL-HAYAH that Afghan Communist Party members have arrived in Peshawar from Afghanistan, India, and Russia, adding that a close associate of the former Afghan president, who has taken refuge at the UN Office in Kabul, has arrived from India and visited several parts of Afghanistan to mobilize support for his efforts. Najibullah's close associate, whose name hasn't been revealed, visited the areas of Quetta and Qandahar and then proceeded to Kabul where he held a lengthy meeting with Mahmud Barialay, brother of ex-Communist President Babrak Karmal, and with Farid Mazdak, the Communist Watan Party secretary general. They have all agreed to coordinate their efforts.

Two pillars of the communist regime, namely ex-Vice President Muhammad Rafi' and ex-Defense Minister Muhammad Watanjar, traveled from Kabul to Peshawar prior to the al-Adha holiday and met there with Solayman La'iq, ex-minister of border affairs, and with other moderate Afghan figures for the same purpose [coordination].

These meetings were preceded by a plenary meeting held in Moscow by ex- communist officials who had fled the country in the wake of the mujahidin's assumption of power. It is well known that Afghan communists have scattered among India, Moscow, the Central Asia republics, and Pakistan. But a large number of them have settled in Peshawar, stronghold of the Pakistani Communist Party (Awami National Party) which is led by Abdul Wali Khan, who is allied with Nawaz Sharif's government.

These sources expect that the communist leadership will try, in cooperation with other moderate forces, to hold meetings inside Afghanistan to be followed by a Loyajirga Council which will demand reinstatement of the king who was toppled by his cousin, Muhammad Daud, in 1973. The communists plan to exploit the mujahidin's disagreements to accomplish their goal.

Ahmad Gaylani, leader of the National Islamic Front who demands reinstatement of the former king, called a few days ago for holding a Loyajirga council to solve the

crisis the country is experiencing. Observers expect rapprochement to develop between the leader of the ex-communist party and the Uzbek militias that are led by General 'Abdul Rashid Dostam who broke away from Najibullah.

But such rapprochement will only be possible through a plan to drain the capabilities of the ruling Jam'iyat-e Eslami [Islamic Society], led by President Borhanoddin Rabbani, and to drain as well the Hezb-e Eslami [Islamic Party], led by the prime minister. This can be accomplished by igniting disputes between the two sides.

Conditions in Kabul

Yesterday, artillery exchanges continued between the forces loyal to Ahmad Shah Mas'ud (one of Rabbani's close aides) and the Shiite Wahdat Party forces. Wahdat Party elements prevented inhabitants of the western part of the capital from fleeing to safer areas. REUTERS attributes to one of the party commanders the statement that orders were issued to his fighters not to permit anybody to leave the area on the pretext that there would be looting and theft.

A peace delegation including Islamic figures close to the mujahidin factions has arrived to confirm the area's ceasefire. More than 6,000 persons have been killed in clashes between the various factions since the mujahidin assumed power.

* Hekmatyar, Rabbani Meet on Weapons, Crime

93AS0908B London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
18 Jun 93 pp 1, 4

[Article by Ahmad Muwaffaq Zaydan: "In Sign of Rapprochement at Mas'ud's Expense, Hekmatyar Takes Oath at Sayyaf's Stronghold in Presence of Rabbani"]

[Text] Peshawar—Afghan Prime Minister Golboddin Hekmatyar and his cabinet members yesterday took the constitutional oath at the Haydarkhan Fort in the Paghman area, 20 kilometers west of Kabul, in the presence of President Borhanoddin Rabbani, and Ettehad-e-Eslami [Islamic Union Party] leader Abdol Rasol Sayyaf. Hekmatyar reaffirmed his determination to gather heavy weapons from the feuding factions and announced his resolve to fight widespread crime, especially highwaymen.

In an address he delivered on the occasion, the Afghan president expressed the hope that all officials will work honestly to fulfill their obligations, voicing his optimism about attaining the desired goals of establishing security and putting an end to war.

The government will hold its first meeting tomorrow, Saturday, at Dar-ol Aman Palace, which will be the government headquarters, southwest of Kabul. The ministers will go to the city center to take over their offices.

The constitutional oath was coupled with a ceremony during which the president and the prime minister reviewed a guard troop lined up to greet them. Supreme Court President Magistrate Mohammad Shah Fazli, deputy chairman of the Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami [Islamic Revolutionary Movement], conducted the oath-taking ceremony and stressed in his address the regime's determination to apply the Islamic Shari'ah.

Ministers belonging to Shaykh Yunes Khales' wing of the Hezb-e Eslami [Islamic Party] and to the pro-Tehran Shiite Wahdat Party [Islamic Unity Party] were absent from the oath-taking ceremony. Observers have expressed the belief that the reason for the Shiite ministers' absence is the fact that the ceremonies were conducted at the stronghold of Sayyaf, whose fighters have fought against the Shiite fighters. It has been learned that a committee will be formed to reconcile the Wahdat Party and Sayyaf.

Rabbani's agreement to have the ceremonies conducted outside Kabul is considered a sign of rapprochement between him on the one hand and Sayyaf and Hekmatyar on the other and an indication of disagreements between the president and Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, his ex-defense minister, who insists that the prime minister perform his duties from the government complexes in central Kabul.

Informed Afghan sources in Islamabad have said (AFP) that Mas'ud-Rabbani relations have been deteriorating steadily since conclusion of the Islamabad accord, adding that some officials of the Jamaat-e Eslami Party [Islamic Society] leadership, which counts Rabbani and Mas'ud among its pillars, are prepared to reach agreement with Hekmatyar. But Mas'ud, who possesses a military power that Rabbani lacks, opposes any conciliation with Hekmatyar and does not conceal his hatred for him. Hekmatyar refuses to move into the center of the capital as long as Mas'ud's fighters are deployed there.

In a related development, AFP quotes unnamed sources as saying that Abdul Rashid Dostam, the Uzbek militias leader, will get a ministerial portfolio in the new cabinet. This signifies the most serious estrangement between Dostam and Mas'ud since the two entered into an alliance to topple ex-Communist President Najibullah in April 1992.

India

Pakistan's Defense Posture, Budget 'Causing Concern'

BK3006154793 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 20 Jun 93 p 12

[By M.K. Dhar]

[Text] New Delhi, June 19—A substantial increase in Pakistan's defence budget for 1993-94, step up of its nuclear weapons programme, acquisition of missiles

from China and spares through commercial channels in the United States are causing concern to India.

There are indications that Pakistan has chosen to ignore U.S. warnings against giving material support to terrorism in Kashmir, which will continue on a higher scale following Mr. Nawaz Sharif's restoration as Prime Minister. With the U.S. supportive of Pakistan's position on the "disputed" status of Jammu and Kashmir, the Inter-Services Intelligence has stepped up militancy in the State and put more sophisticated weapons in the hands of terrorists and foreign mercenaries; some of whom have been caught in the Valley.

Pakistan's defence budget at Rs.[rupees] 8,910 crore marks a Rs. 695 crore or 8.4 percent increase over last year's allocation of Rs. 8,215 crore. It also receives direct financial support from Saudi Arabia for weapons purchases. The higher defence outlay is being utilised for giving sharper teeth to its offensive capability.

In spite of the "Pressler Amendment", Pakistan has managed to secure vital spares for its F-16 fighters and is better prepared for an offensive with about 50 days reserve ammunition and fuel stock. Its leadership seems convinced that the Indian Army is not capable of launching a major ground offensive. Following stoppage of U.S. military assistance, Pakistan's three squadrons of F-16, numbering about 35 operational aircraft, with orders for another 11 F-16 A/B and 60 fighting Falcons suspended under the Pressler Amendment, all spare parts support was withdrawn. But the deficiency of spares has been more or less made up by purchases through commercial channels in the U.S. and countries possessing F-16s. There has also been no interruption in the supply of Chinese missiles to Pakistan despite veiled warnings by Washington to Beijing, which has refused to disclose details of its missile transfers in contravention of the Missile Technology Control Regime guidelines. Transfer of nuclear weapons technology by it to Pakistan continues despite its being a signatory to the NPT [Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty]. Therefore, with reference to the Army (18 infantry divisions, 2 armoured divisions and 14 independent brigades) and the Air Force (430 combat aircraft) Pakistan's operational readiness is at an improved level than before.

As regards Pakistan's war strategy, a semi-official paper under restricted circulation in official Islamabad defines the three main objectives as: emerge as the leader of the Islamic bloc with nuclear capability; give a fitting reply to any military offensive by India and to gain control of Jammu and Kashmir. Following the end of the war in Afghanistan, Pakistan is no longer a frontline State for the U.S.. It can now deploy its full military strength against India on its eastern borders.

"Pakistan is now capable of playing both defensive and aggressive roles with full confidence, since all its resources and manpower will be concentrated on one front, as against the earlier. Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff has said that the country is now in a position to confront even its worst enemy. India cannot even think of attacking us. This demonstrates new confidence. Such statements reflect realism and are not merely based on rhetoric." It points out that in order to be able to combat India, Pakistan cultivated countries outside the region particularly the U.S. and China. Pakistan also harmonised its relations with Islamic countries, continued the acquisition of sophisticated and modern weapons and strive for gaining parity with India in the nuclear field.

Pakistan's earlier doctrine was aggressive defence which dictated that it should launch pre-emptive attack on India and try to hold on to the territory captured by adopting a defensive posture. But this doctrine proved disadvantageous to Pakistan both in the 1965 and 1971 wars in which it was defeated because it did not have the required reserve manpower with the result that when India retaliated Pakistan could not withstand the attack.

"The situation now is different. Pakistan has increased the strength of its armed forces. It is in a position to adopt a new war strategy after being free from engagement on the Western front. It can now hold its ground, strike at the enemy, wear out its offensive strength and repel any Indian invasion. The new strategy involves penetration into Indian territory and is based partly on the disturbed law and order situation in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir."

"Pakistan is now in a position to induct trained Mujahideen, commandoes and saboteurs to create difficulties for India. The strategy was evolved after Zarb-i-Momin [military exercise] and the lessons derived from it codenamed "war games" which were staged in January 1991. The then COAS [Chief of Army Staff] said, while winding up the war games, that Pakistan Army is not only ready to defend its border but is also capable of waging war in the enemy's territory. He also said that the geo-political situation demanded active cooperation among Pakistan, Iran, Turkey, and Afghanistan as his perceptions were based on the objectives common to all, to establish the supremacy of Islam."

Referring to Pakistan's advantages, the paper points out that with growing militancy in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir the Indian Army would find it difficult to operate on the western front. Apart from deployment of the Army in substantial numbers on law enforcement duties in several parts of India, reducing the overall availability of forces for war deployment, the local factor in these two States would work to Pakistan's advantage.

"By continuing to provide moral, material, and military assistance to the people of Kashmir who have risen in revolt against India, it should be possible to create disruption as large chunks of the Army would be needed for law enforcement duties and to prevent sabotage behind the Indian lines. It would be in Pakistan's interest to keep the Indian Army entangled in the Kashmir Valley so as to weaken it professionally and reduce its

effectiveness. Pakistan could then achieve its desired objective of launching an attack with a superior force and achieve the objective."

It is thus clear that "Operation Topac" devised by the late Gen. Ziaul Haq is being implemented by the Nawaz Sharif Government in meticulous detail while maintaining the facade of a dialogue with India on bilateral issues. The first two stages of "Operation Topac" have been implemented by Pakistan on the ground and preparations are now underway to implement the third phase.

'Hard-Core Militant' Arrested in Kashmir

BK3006164093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, a hard-core militant, Mohamed Azam was arrested by police from village (Gantria) in Poonch District today. The senior superintendent of police, Mr. L. Mohanty, told All India Radio Poonch correspondent that the arrest was made on the basis of a specific information about the militant, who was a self-styled area commander of the militant outfit Harkatul Mojahedin. He was wanted by the police for a long time. Four AK-56 rifles, 13 magazines, three grenades, and a large quantity of ammunition was recovered from him.

Meanwhile, the day curfew has been lifted in Kishtwar town of Doda District today. Night curfew will, however, continue as a precautionary measure.

Seven Punjab 'Militants' Killed by Security Forces

BK0107051693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0435 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] In Punjab, seven militants, including hard-core Prithvipal Singh Pali and Manjit Singh, were killed in separate encounters with the security forces yesterday. According to an official spokesman, five militants, including the two hard-core, were killed in Butt Pagrian village in Amritsar District, while two militants each were killed in Kapurthala and Sangrur Districts.

Chief of Army Staff Retires From Service

BK3006115093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] The chief of the Army Staff, General S.F. Rodrigues, who retires today after 41 years of distinguished service was given a ceremonial send-off in the capital today. He was presented the guard of honor by his own battalion, the 165 Field Regiment in South Block. Early in the morning, General Rodrigues laid a wreath at the Amar Jawan Jyoti [Immortal Soldiers Monument]. Gen. Rodrigues, who is the recipient of Param Vishisht Seva Medal [military award] and Vishisht Seva Medal [military award] was seen off at the airport by the naval chief, Admiral L. Ramdas, and the chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal N.C. Suri.

New Chief Urges Respect for Human Rights

BK0107091493 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] The new chief of the Army Staff, General B.C. Joshi, has called upon the Army personnel to give due importance to respecting human rights while undertaking low-intensity operations. Talking to PTI in New Delhi today, Gen. Joshi said that it was the duty of the Army to act and use force against the militants who disrupt the functioning of constitutionally elected governments.

Stockbroker Claims To Have More Evidence on Payoff

BK0107040293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] The Bombay stockbroker, Harshad Mehta, appeared before the Joint Parliamentary Committee [JPC] probing the multi-crore security scam last night and was questioned by the committee members till about 0130 today. Briefing newsmen, the committee chairman, Mr. Ram Niwas Mirdha, said the stockbroker made a number of contradictions in his reply about his visit to the prime minister's house on 4 November 1991, including some material contradictions.

The JPC chairman said that Harshad Mehta did not reply the way the JPC wanted him to and apparently withheld many details and information. Instead, the stockbroker made a series of complaints against the CBI [Central Bureau of Investigations] for not extending help to him in having access to records and documents in their possession. Mr. Mirdha said that the stockbroker told the JPC that his lawyer, Mr. Ram Jethmalani, was not authorized by him to say certain things and has acted in dual capacity as a politician and his lawyer. He told the committee that he had paid 10 lakh rupees to Jethmalani in May last year as a retainer. Harshad Mehta said Mr. Jethmalani had advised him to meet the then CBI joint director, Mr. Madhavan, before the investigating agency lodged an FIR [First Information Report] against him. He denied the CBI charge that he has any foreign bank account.

The stockbroker admitted conducting abnormal business for one politician, but did not elaborate. On asking why he did not make allegations about the prime minister when he first appeared before the JPC in November last year, Harshad Mehta said that the statements were then discreet. He however admitted that he has still more evidence about the alleged payoff which he would disclose at an appropriate time. The JPC chairman made it clear that the stockbroker did not furnish much new evidence about his payoff and did not furnish proof thereof either. Mr. Mirdha said the JPC members did not have enough time last night to consider whether the prime minister should be asked to appear before the committee. He however said that the stockbroker in his deposition has alleged that two senior officers in the

prime minister's office are trying to cover up circumstantial evidence in respect of the alleged payoff. The JPC will meet again on Tuesday [6 July].

Rao Cautions on Slowing Inflow of Foreign Investment

BK3006154093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] The prime minister has cautioned the people that developmental programs would be hampered unless there is unity and stability in the country. Mr. Narasimha Rao was addressing a public meeting at Nizamabad today on the second day of his four-day tour to Andhra Pradesh. He said the inflow of foreign investment had received a setback owing to frequent communal disturbances. Mr. Rao said although the country has achieved significant progress in several areas, the pace of progress is not up to the desired level. Several small nations which were looking toward India for help a decade ago are now ahead of us. The prime minister referred to the forces trying to divide the people on communal lines by carrying on a campaign of hat.ed and urged the people to fight them unitedly.

Earlier, laying the foundation stone for a building of the provident fund office for bidi [Indian variety of cigarettes] workers, the prime minister said a legislation providing pension to bidi workers would be introduced and passed in the next session of parliament.

Government's Performance Over Past Two Years Assessed

BK2906060293 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 23 Jun 93 p 8

[Editorial: "Little To Celebrate"]

[Text] With its political stock dwindling, the Narasimha Rao Government has fallen back on the familiar stratagem of a public relations blitzkrieg as a part of its damage-control exercise. The focus is on its "achievements" during its two years in office. And as in the case of all such exercises earlier, the media chosen are the state-owned Doordarshan [TV] and All India Radio. Unfortunately, what is forgotten in the midst of the engineered euphoria is that people are not easily fooled. Not all the efforts on the electronic media to whitewash the Bofors scandal could prevent Rajiv Gandhi's image being dented by it. Nor could public relations obscure the many failures of his overnment.

The harsh fact is that two years of the Narasimha Rao Government mark one of the gloomiest periods in the history of Independent India. The few bright spots like the improvement of the situation in Punjab pale when one considers the massive list of failures. Liberalisation has been unable to give a boost to the economy. The anticipated flood of investment from abroad has not materialised. Exports have not taken off vertically. The burden of foreign debt has grown alarmingly. The incidence of unemployment continues to rise. Infrastructural weaknesses like undependable power supply haunt large parts of the country. The scam-hit stock market continues to be in the doldrums.

The same ineptitude which has characterised the Government's handling of the economy, is manifest in its efforts on the political front. The most dismal commentary on the latter remains its deplorable failure to prevent the events in Ayodhya on December 6,1992, and the demolition of the Babri structure. Its attempts to cope with the aftermath of the demolition by arresting important leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and banning organisations like the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the Bajrang Dal recoiled on it when the judiciary declared the ban on both these organisations illegal while upholding that on the VHP. The lack of political wisdom, reflected in the arrests, bans and dismissal of the BJP governments of the four northern states in December last year, was manifest in the groundswell of sympathy it created for the BJP which did remarkably well in the May by-elections. Apart from the political odium it brought on the Congress, the dissolution of the BJP-run state governments dealt another severe blow to India's federal polity. But much more serious has been the damage done to the quality of the country's public life by a series of sensational charges of corruption which reached its climax in Harshad Mehta's dramatic allegation that he has paid Rs.[rupees] one crore to the Prime Minister. While the allegation has been stoutly denied, the stigma remains despite the chorus of praise.

Expansion of UN Security Council Urged

BK0107092893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] India has called for the expansion of the UN Security Council with the addition of 10 new members, including six permanent ones. According to an Indian submission in response to a letter on the subject from the secretary general, Dr. Butrus-Ghali, this will help in preserving the Security Council's effectiveness in keeping international peace and security. The submission says that the number of permanent members of the council should be increased to 10 or 11 and the nonpermanent members to 12 or 14. The 15-nation council has five permanent members and 10 nonpermanent members now.

The United States has also said it is necessary to expand the Security Council in view of the increase in the work load of the United Nations. It also supported moves for Germany and Japan to be given permanent seats on the UN Security Council. However, Washington says the status of the present council's five permanent members—Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States—should remain unchanged.

Vice President's Visit to Morocco Previewed

BK3006094693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] The vice president, Mr. K.R. Narayanan, is arriving at Rabat from Paris this afternoon on a five-day official visit to Morocco. He will hold discussions with the Moroccan prime minister, Mr. Mohamed Karim Lambrani, in the evening. It will be followed by delegation-level talks between the two countries. Mr. Narayanan will also call on King Hassan II and meet academicians, intellectuals, and members of the Indian community during his stay in Morocco. He will visit the industrial city of Casablanca and the historic city of Fez. Our correspondent Prafulla Kumar Tripathi covering the vice president's visit says Mr. Narayanan is the first high level Indian leader to visit Morocco in several years.

Iran

Commentary Says Iraqi Attacks Show U.S. Double Standard

LD3006212893 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Unattributed commentary: "American Strike at Radar Base Sign of U.S. Double Standards"]

[Text] An F-4 fighter of the U.S. Air Force Tuesday targeted and demolished a radar base in southern Iraq. During the air raid, whose details have not been reported, apparently an Iraqi soldier was wounded. Meanwhile a spokesman of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry co[illegible]end[illegible] that the air-defense radar base was not active. The U.S. air raid against Iraq Tuesday was carried out south of the 32d parallel which was declared a no-fly zone last summer.

The attack, which came just three days after the U.S. missile strike against Baghdad last Sunday, has sounded a special message from Washington to Baghdad. The recent U.S. missile strike against Baghdad, which was carried out on the pretext of Iraqi participation in the plan to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush, during his Kuwait visit some time ago, despite being initially approved by certain states, like Britain, Germany, Russia, Italy, Japan and some other countries, is still faced with negative reaction from various states. This is because the unilateral U.S. decision to punish Baghdad on the charge of state terrorism, without securing an authorization from the UN Security Council, has increased concerns over adoption of such decisions by Washington.

After the Persian Gulf war and the Iraqi forces' defeat at the hands of the U.S.-led allied troops, Washington, with the help of the Security Council leverage, has pursued its designs against Iraq. But the U.S. missile strike against certain targets in Baghdad last Sunday without informing the Security Council of it is not only viewed as a unilateral move, but also points to the settlement of account. This act also undermines the very entity of the United Nations and adds to the concerns about the status of this body in regional and international issues and matters.

The move further increases this danger that the United States has considered for itself a role which goes beyond the United Nations in pursuit of what Washington terms as the enforcement of the new world order.

Under these conditions the U.S. air strike against an Iraqi air-defense radar base in southern Iraq yesterday is a noteworthy issue since the U.S. officials have not so far given any convincing justification for their recent missile attack.

U.S. President Bill Clinton, in a letter addressed to the U.S. Senate, in justifying this measure has said: Based on the model chosen by Iraq not to respect international law I have come to the conclusion that there does not exist any rational prospects in favor of the notion that fresh diplomatic initiative or economic measure against the Iraqi Government will prove effective in making Baghdad abandon its plans for future attacks against the United States.

In view of these events, the subject that the United States, under the present circumstances, through assuming the role of an international gendarme, is seeking to attain its expansionist and covetous designs, and its acts go far beyond the scope of the United Nations, as has become more evident. [sentence as heard]

At the same time the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and continuing crimes being committed by the Serbs, as well as the events taking place in the occupied Palestine and constant suppression of the Palestinians point to the double standard being observed by Washington in its policies.

Saudi Arabia, Turkey Said Using Confiscated Iraqi Oil

LD3006133193 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] The Governments of Turkey and Saudi Arabia have confiscated over 13 million barrels of Iraqi oil which had remained in these two countries since the start of the UN Security Council sanctions against Iraq. Reports received indicate that Turkey has begun to refine about 5 million barrels of the Iraqi oil and Saudi Arabia has also started releasing about 8 million barrels of the Iraqi oil from its stores in the Red Sea.

The Security Council resolution dictates that the revenue from the sale of the Iraqi oil should be deposited in a special account at the United Nations. However, neither the Turkish nor the Saudi Government has yet deposited any money in this account.

Envoy Condemns Security Council 'Appeasement' Over Bosnia

LD3006152393 Tehran IRNA in English 1418 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] New York, June 30, IRNA—Iranian permanent representative to the U.N. said here Tuesday [29 June] that the Security Council's policy on the Serbian aggression was "characterized by double standards, appeasement and leniency towards the aggressor."

Addressing the U.N. Security Council, Kamal Kharrazi criticized the Council for its inability "to fullfil its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations to halt Serbian aggression." He stated that the U.N. failure to do so, is responsible for "the ethnic cleansing, its legitimization and the alarming possibility of dismemberment" of a U.N. member state.

Kharrazi lambasted the practice of using of the so-called "safe areas" as refugee camps and said that the establishment of safe areas should have been used as "the first step towards defeating Serbian aggression and restoring the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of Bosnia and Herzegovina."

He said that the Security Council has backed an arms embargo that in effect has made the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina (B-H) unable to defend themselves.

Referring to B-H as a U.N. "sovereign member state which is nearing extinction," he stated that the Islamic Republic of Iran supports the draft resolution recognizing the inalienable right of B-H "as a member state of the United Nations to individual and collective self-defense stipulated in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations."

"The critical question is whether the Security Council should be guided by political expediences or by the human conscience which is wounded and shocked by heinous crimes of the Serbs," Kharrazi added.

Malaysian Minister Notes Close Relations

LD3006135093 Tehran IRNA in English 1212 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Vienna, June 30, IRNA—Malaysian Home Affairs Minister Musa Bin Hitam said that Malaysia and Iran enjoy close economic and political relations.

In an interview with IRNA, Hitam who was the head of Malaysian delegation to the U.N. world conference on human rights which ended June 25, referred to effective cooperation of the two countries in the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) during the Vienna human rights conference.

He added that in the course of the conference the delegation of both countries called for safeguarding Islamic interests and lifting arms embargo against Bosnia-Herzegovina (B-H) and drew the attention of the delegates to the abuses of human rights in B-H.

The Malaysian minister expressed his disappointment with the indifference of Western countries who proclaim to be the supporters of human rights towards the Bosnian crisis.

President Speaks on Anniversary of 1981 Bombing

LD3006123693 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpts] On the tasu'a of Imam Husayn [ninth day of his martyrdom], in addition to mourning services, ceremonies were held in honor of the 72 martyrs of 7 Tir [28 June 1981—explosion at Islamic Republican Party headquarters], in the presence of President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, at Sarcheshmeh in Tehran last night.

At the ceremonies, which were also attended by families of martyrs and clergymen and a number of the country's personalities, our country's president made a speech in which he paid tribute to the Karbala' uprising. [passage omitted]

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the role of the 72 martyrs of the Islamic Republican Party was very valuable to the Islamic revolution. He said: The blind-hearted hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq] thought that they could destroy the revolution by martyring its proponents. But we now see that our revolution is more recognized around the world today than ever. The president said: Today, after the explosion at the Islamic Republican Party, the hypocrites have received their punishment, which is begging and spying in other countries, and our martyrs have received their reward, which is being close to God.

* Anti-Bazargan Protestors Attack KIYAN Office

93LA0094A Tehran JAHAN-E ESLAM in Persian 15 May 93 p 3

[Text] Tehran. IRNA. The office of KIYAN was attacked yesterday afternoon by a number of motorcycle riders, and damages were inflicted.

The attackers protested KIYAN's interview with Mehdi Bazargan in the 11th issue of the publication.

In this interview, Bazargan had expressed his views about the history of religious thought in the Islamic world and Iran and also among the educated and modernists in Iran.

Shouting, "Death to Bazargan, death to KIYAN, the liberal magazine must be closed, and Bazargan must be executed," they broke the windows, tables, and chairs of KIYAN magazine.

KIYAN magazine's office is in a third-story building in an alley of Qa'en Maqam Farahani St.

* Medical Students Enjoy Favorable Exchange Rate

93LA0083N Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian 19 May 93 p 4

[Text] **Tehran. 19 Ordibehesht [9 May]. The deputy minister of health, treatment and medical education announced that there has been no change in the rate of foreign currency for students abroad, and all medical students will continue to benefit from the 70-rial [Rls] dollar.**

Dr. Kanzi, deputy minister for student affairs of the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education, in his visit to Hamadan, said in an interview with KEYHAN: This year, about Rls15 billion in the budget have been allocated to building student dormitories.

In this connection, he added: In the first half of this year, seven dormitories with the capacity for more than 3,000 students will become operational in the cities of Urmia, Ahvaz, Kerman, Kermanshah, and Sari.

According to a report by our KEYHAN correspondent in Hamadan, during the visit of Dr. Kanzi to this city, the library, auditorium, cafeteria, and dormitory of the Medical Sciences University of Hamadan were opened.

The building and completion of these facilities cost about Rls1 billion.

Nepal

Calm Returning; Demand for Premier's Resignation Rejected

BK3006070293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0559 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Kathmandu, June 30 (AFP)—Calm was returning to the Nepalese capital Wednesday [30 June] after a fifth successive night of curfew imposed to contain anti-government unrest that may have claimed up to 25 lives.

Police reported 10 arrests overnight and several stone throwing incidents, but unlike previous nights since the curfew was imposed Friday following a general strike, there were no clashes.

After five days of disruption, life in the Kathmandu town area was limping back to normal as people returned to work. Students were also back in schools and colleges.

The Nepal Communist Party-United Marxist and Leninist (NCP-UML) claimed that 25 people were killed during the five days of unrest, and more than 100 injured.

Police put the official toll at 10 dead and 25 injured.

An NCP-UML spokesman said 550 people had been arrested, with 137 still being detained and facing trial.

During the unrest, King Birendra summoned the NCP-UML chairman Man Mohan Adhikari and its general secretary Madhav Nepal to discuss the political situation in Nepal.

The NCP-UML, angered by a government report on an accident last month at Das Dhunga 180 kilometres (112 miles) west of here, in which two of its senior leaders, called the general strike last Friday. [sentence as received]

The report, issued by former Supreme Court Justice Prachand Raj Anil, stated that the May 16 jeep accident, which claimed the lives of General Secretary Madan Kumar Bhandari and Central Committee Member Jeev Raj Ashrit, was due to negligence.

It blamed the driver of the jeep, NCP-UML member Amar Lama, and dismissed the allegations by opposition groups and local newspapers that the accident had been planned.

But in its own investigation, the party attributed the deaths to a conspiracy.

"The driver of the jeep is also deeply involved in the conspiracy," the party report said.

In the wake of the anti-government unrest, the ruling Nepali Congress Central Working Committee (NCCWC), chaired by its president Krishna Prasad Bhattarai, met briefly on Tuesday to review the situation.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala, Central Committee members and parliamentarians.

Earlier on Tuesday, some 8,000 communist activists held an anti- government demonstration in a nearby Banepa township.

They waved banners emblazoned with such slogans as "Death to Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala," "We want Koirala to be removed from office," and "Constitute an all-party high-level investigation commission on May 16 jeep accident."

Koirala, who returned Saturday to Kathmandu from Europe and Israel, told reporters he would not bow to demands for a new inquiry.

"The NCP-UML talks highly of democratic values, but they themselves are violating human rights norms," he said, calling the demands for a new commission "unacceptable."

"I fully honour and support the report prepared by the Anil commission," he said of the government report into the accident.

In an interview with AFP, Congress Committee President Bhattarai described the political situation as "quite disturbing."

"Resignation of Prime Minister Koirala from office is unthinkable, as demanded by the UML," Bhattarai said.

"We have initiated talks with the NCP-UML leaders and it is continuing," he said, adding: "During our talks with the NCP-UML, we insisted that the left factions should withdraw the current movement and continue negotiation, for in democracy, everything is negotiable."

The united action committee of Nepal's seven left factions issued a statement Tuesday calling for another "Nepal Bandh", or general strike, on Sunday to press the Koirala government to fulfill their demands.

Koirala Wants Dialogue With Opposition

BK3006155593 Hong Kong AFP in English 1238 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Kathmandu, June 30 (AFP)—Nepalese Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala called Wednesday [30 June] on the communist opposition to join in talks aimed at defusing political unrest, but the opposition indicated it would reject the appeal.

With Kathmandu quiet for a second straight day after anti- government disturbances by communist sympathisers that left as many as 25 people dead and scores of buildings torched, Koirala said it was time for unity.

"The important need today is mutual trust and cooperation for nourishing the democratic system in the country," government officials quoted him saying at a parliamentary reception.

"Solving problems through dialogue is the norm of the parliamentary system," Koirala said.

Although he was called to a meeting with King Birendra on Tuesday, Nepal Communist Party-United Marxist and Leninist (NCP-UML) general secretary Madhav Nepal appeared in no mood for talks with the government.

"This offer for a dialogue is not acceptable to us," he told AFP, adding that Koirala's resignation was "a precondition" of NCP-UML cooperation.

"There is no meaning in a dialogue, as we have already placed our demands.

For the first time since Thursday no clashes with police were reported in Kathmandu overnight and amid a continuing curfew there were only 10 arrests, despite a few minor stone-throwing incidents. [passage omitted]

Pakistan

Controversy Over Central Government's Rule in Punjab

President Asks for Details

BK3006145493 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] APP, quoting a spokesman of the President's House, has reported that the president, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, had not till this afternoon received, approved, or signed any proclamation in pursuance of Article 234 of the Constitution. The spokesman was commenting on reports appearing in today's newspapers to the effect that such a proclamation was issued by the president late last night. The spokesman clarified that under the rules, the president gives his approval to such a proclamation by setting his hand on the document itself on the advice of the prime minister to be tendered through a summary which includes the resolution passed by the joint sitting of parliament, duly signed and authenticated by the speaker. The spokesman said no such summary had been received by the president till this afternoon.

The spokesman disclosed that the president has already asked the cabinet secretar to explain the authority of law and relevant rules under which he has signed the proclamation without president's prior approval or even information.

The federal minister for law and justice, Chaudhary Abdul Ghafoor, has said in a statement that submission to the president of the proclamation issued for assuming the powers of the Punjab government by the federal government is neither required under the rules nor was necessary. He said this is quite clear in the respective rules of business and in view of the mandatory character of the resolution adopted by parliament at its joint sitting.

Bhutto: Resolution 'Subversion'

BK3006125393 Karachi DAWN in English 30 Jun 93 pp 1, 15

[Text] Islamabad, June 29—Leader of the Opposition Ms Benazir Bhutto has termed the adoption of resolution under Article 231 as "subversion of the Constitution" and called upon President Ghulam Ishaq Khun to refer the issue to the Supreme Court for seeking its opinion.

"There have [words indistinct] high treason by adopting this resolution and we would not allow the Federal Government to usurp the rights of the Punjab government", she added.

Speaking at a news conference on Tuesday along with other parliamentary opposition leaders after staging a walkout from joint sitting of the Parliament, she said

that Nawaz Sharif wanted to rule in Punjab without constitutional and lawful authority.

Flanked by Elamid Nasir Chattah, Farooq Leghari, Afzul Khan, Mustafa Khar and Hafiz Hussain Ahmad and many others she said the President must not allow the proclamation of the resolution which according to her was a blatant [words indistinct].

"All those who voted for the resolution must face Article 6 of the Constitution", she declared. Any person found guilty of high treason or subverting the constitution by force or any other unconstitutional mean is liable to death punishment or life imprisonment under Article 6 of the Constitution.

She alleged that Speaker Gohar Ayub Ited when he said there would be nothing to discuss in the joint session other than framing rules and the setting up of the new committees. "I had visited his chamber and he assured me that there is nothing extra-ordinary in the joint sitting but everybody witnessed at the end of the proceedings that they adopted a controversial resolution [words indistinct].

The resolution adopted in great hurry by the Treasury without providing the opportunity to the opposition to speak aims at installing a government of their choice in the biggest and most populous province of Punjab.

The PPP [Pakistan People's Party] Co-Chairman said that the government has made a mockery of the constitution by adopting this resolution. She said instead of postponing the joint sitting of the Parliament on account of Muharram the government has tried to grab all the powers of the province.

She said the speaker allowed the long speeches in the House on point of orders because the Prime Minister had gone to the President to secure his support on the issue. When he returned unsuccessful in convincing the President to remove Governor Altaf Hussain, he asked his men to adopt the resolution, she said quoting one of the ministers.

Ms Bhutto also said she did not understand why the government summoned the session of the Parliament [words indistinct] means the government knew about the judgment of the High Court", she asked.

The PPP Co-Chairman pointed out that the adoption of the resolution under Article 234 was not on the agenda but they did so in utter disregard to democratic norms.

"As a matter of fact this is a personal feud between the president and the Prime Minister", she said adding that Nawaz Sharif was all out to punish those provincial authorities who were not of his choice. "I want to know what is the fault of Governor Altaf Hussain and how could he be stopped from exercising his right of dissolving the Assembly on the advice of the Chief Minister".

Ms Bhutto asked the Prime Minister as to why he has lost faith in courts and that why he can not go to them again and could not wait for their decision and sought the proclaimation of this controversial resolution from the President.

She said nobody could help Nawaz Sharif if his MPA's [members of provincial assembly] turned "Lotas" [traitors] and changed their loyalties. "But I [words indistinct] why you (Nawaz) are trying to punish the people of Punjab on account of your own undependable and purchasable MPA's."

Ms Bhutto justified the invocation of Article 234 in Balochistan in 1974 and NWFP [North West Frontier Province] in 1976 because there was an insurgency due to the hostile Afghan government which had threatened the very security of the country.

"Now tell me what kind of urgency is there in Punjab. There is no internal and external threat and why have you adopted this resolution", she said adding that Nawaz Sharif wanted to rule the country through illegal and unconstitutional means.

"Do not destroy the constitution and stop changing the Governor on your likings and dislikings", she added. She said the governor was running his affairs in accordance with the provisions of the constitution and he should not be changed on personal whims.

The PPP Co-Chairman termed the resolution as a black spot on the constitutional history of the country. She also claimed that since [words indistinct] provincial assembly. This resolution could not be enforced. Moreover she said the government has not given any reason as to why it wanted to adopt the resolution. They have not given one of the reason against the Governor and the provincial government and from that point of view this adoption of resolution under Article 234 was illegal and unconstitutional", she said.

"They have given no material showing that the provincial government has ceased to function in accordance with the constitution", she said.

The leader of the Opposition also said the adoption of the resolution was malafied action and amounted to high treason.

She hoped that the people of Punjab would not accept the usurpation of their rights by the Federal government and attack on the provincial autonomy. "We are going to visit the province and would expose the rulers for having adopted this resolution."

Asked if the President does not refer the issue to the Supreme Court, she said then the entire opposition would sit together and find out the solution of the problem. In this regard she also hinted the possibility of meeting the President and asking him to send the issue to the Supreme Court.

Responding to a question, the PPP Co-Chairman said that the Nawaz Sharif government was not prepared to listen anything about the [words indistinct] there was no use to have talks in future.

In reply to a question, the Leader of the Opposition did not rule out the imposition of martial law in the country. She said if the present situation continued it would be difficult for the Army to maintain its neutrality.

However she praised the neutrality of the Chief of the Army Staff. So far General Waheed had played a remarkable role and I salute him for being impartial". [quotation marks as published]

But she warned the rulers to behave and stop taking unconstitutional and illegal actions to avoid martial law in the country.

Answering a question, Ms Bhutto said the PDA [People's Democratic Alliance] would again start the long march against the repressive policies of the Federal government. "The previous long marchs had met with great success and we would again corner the government through our long march", she claimed.

Sharif Vows To Enforce Law

BK3006160493 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif said that the government is determined to maintain the supremacy of the law and the Constitution and will not allow anybody to deride or violate the Constitution. Talking informally to newsmen in Islamabad today, he said the adoption of the resolution at the joint sitting of the parliament yesterday can in no way be regarded as a violation of the Constitution, in which the president has been asked to assume the powers of the Punjab Province under Article 234 of the Constitution. Nawaz Sharif said the resolution is aimed at restoring the mandate of the people of Punjab and foiling the conspiracies against them.

The prime minister regretted that the provincial assembly was dissolved even after the landmark judgment of the high court and said the federal government is dutybound to ensure that the provincial governments discharge their duties within the confines of the Constitution. He regretted that the governor and the chief minister of Punjab displayed intransigence and did not accept the verdict of the highest court of the province.

Nawaz Sharif said the decision to bring Punjab under the direct control of the federal government has been made in the larger interest of the nation and nobody will be allowed to endanger the security and stability of the country.

Answering a question, the prime minister said he is pledge-bound to enforce and safeguard the Constitution. His government has never taken any illegal or unconstitutional action and that is why his government was restored by the Supreme Court.

In reply to yet another question, Nawaz Sharif said that the announcement by opposition leader Benazir Bhutto to launch a movement against the adoption of the resolution on Punjab by the parliament is surprising. He said he is sincere in his efforts for reconciliation with the opposition, but the opposition's response is not in keeping with the interest of the nation.

Government Warns of 'Stern Action'

BK0107034093 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Interior Minister Chaudhary Shujat Hussain has said that the federal government will take stern action against those who do not respect the high court and the Supreme Court decisions on the restoration of assemblies earlier and are now evading the resolution passed at the joint session of parliament on 29 June. In a statement, he asked government officials to work according to the rules and regulations and to disobey unconstitutional and illegal orders. He said that Punjab's chief secretary and inspector general of police have been suspended and action will be taken against those following their orders under the government servant (?efficiency) and disciplinary rules.

Chaudhary Abdul Ghafoor, federal law and justice minister, has said that it is incumbent upon the government under Article 234 of the Constitution to implement resolutions adopted by the parliament and other relevant directives issued by it. In a statement in Islamabad yesterday, he said that the president or the prime minister has no authority to change or revise any such resolution. The law minister said that under the rules of business, it is not necessary under the Constitution for the president to endorse the finding that any particular provincial government is not functioning according to the Constitution. He said that such constitutional resolutions become automatically effective after they are approved by the joint Senate-National Assembly session and the president and the prime minister are bound to implement them. In such a situation, there is neither scope nor necessity for seeking advice or endorsement. Chaudhary Abdul Ghafoor said that despite this, the joint parliament session resolution and the proclamation related to it were faxed to the President's Secretariat at 0208 and 0210 early yesterday morning. Immediately after this, the resolution and the proclamation were delivered by hand to the president's house for his information.

Federal Information Minister Abdul Sattar Lalika has said that the joint session of the National Assembly and the Senate enjoys constitutional sanctity and everyone is bound to implement the resolution adopted by it. In a statement last night, he criticized People's Party cochairperson Ms. Benazir Bhutto for threatening to take the people to the street. The information minister said this

indicates that she does not believe in the supremacy of the Constitution. He reminded Ms. Benazir Bhutto that during her late father's tenure, the federal government had assumed the powers of Balochistan by a resolution adopted by a joint session of the parliament.

Khan Tell Punjab To Ignore Sharif's Orders

BK0107050093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0435 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] In Pakistan, a serious constitutional crisis has developed following President Ghulam Ishaq Khan's denial that he had issued any proclamation imposing central rule in Punjab Province. AIR [All India Radio] special correspondent Suresh Chopra reports that the president has asked Chaudhary Altaf Hussain to continue as the governor of the province and has instructed the provincial administration to ignore all orders of the Nawaz Sharif government. Heavy police deployment was witnessed around key government buildings and installations and efforts of Mr. Mohammad Azhar to take over as governor were frustrated.

Editorial Deplores Situation

BK3006133793 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 30 Jun 93 p 7

[Editorial: "Re-Living the Past"]

[Text] Increasingly, the country's politics looks like an unmitigated disaster. A great deal has happened over the past two days to suggest that the situation will persist, and might even worsen. The Lahore High Court verdict on Monday to restore the Punjab Assembly was followed by the advice of the Chief Minister, Mian Manzoor Wattoo, to the Governor, Altaf Hussain, to dissolve the Assembly. This he promptly accepted. Which in turn led a distraught government of Mian Nawaz Sharif to seek ways and means to impose central rule in the province. At the joint session of Parliament, which had originally been called to discuss rules and procedures of joint sittings and to constitute committees for this purpose, [words indistinct] article 234 of the Constitution to ask the President to proclaim emergency in the Punjab. Despite sharp criticism and filibustering tactics by the Opposition, the resolution was passed supported by 145 members of the two houses of Parliament. Seven voted against the resolution. The PDA [People's Democratic Alliance] walked out.

What does all this mean? Certainly, more political trouble, making the future look more uncertain than it already is. The Opposition is exceedingly bitter about the manner in which the government steamrolled the resolution in the joint sitting, initially keeping them in the dark about the real agenda of the session. For the government, which sees securing the Punjab a test case of its political strength, the second dissolution of the provincial assembly is the proverbial red rag. Its spokesmen claim that the Opposition is still trying to destabilise the federal government by creating problems in the politically most powerful province of the country. For all intents and purposes, both are at daggers drawn with each other. The stage seems set for another head on clash.

But the saddest part of this sorry situation is that there is nothing inevitable about it. The roots of the current political conflict lie in a ceaseless struggle for unbridled power that has all along been the hallmark of political conduct. That the pursuit of such aims pushed democracy over the edge in the past seems to be a lesson our political leaders are unwilling to learn. That however does not change the reality that this tussle between the government and the opposition is setting the stage for a tragic repeat of history.

Prime Minister Urged To Have Open Mind About Polls

BK3006121493 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 Jun 93 p 6

[Editorial: "PM Must Have an Open Mind on Polls"]

[Text] Once again Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has "rejected" the possibility of holding general elections before the end of his tenure". What was the occasion for reiteration of this point? What was this in aid of? Who was it meant to impress and for what purpose? Let it be clearly understood by the Prime Minister and his cheerleaders that in the eyes of the people of Pakistan, the general elections conducted under the direct personal supervision of President Ghulam Ishaq Khan are not untainted. The Opposition's allegations of "rigging" have not been completely rejected by the people. It is a different matter that the blame for that rigging (whether partial or massive) is unfairly placed at the doors of Mr. Nawaz Sharif instead of the real author of rigging, that is, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

That Mr Nawaz Sharif turned out to be one of the beneficiaries of that process is only an irony because the main objective of Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan in manipulating the general elections was wishfully to bury the Bhutto family and the Pakistan People's Party for good. That said, the fact of life is that Mr. Nawaz Sharif's insistence on a people's mandate (now, according to him, "reinforced" by the Supreme Court verdict) is at least in part an illusion which Mr. Nawaz Sharif should shed instead of revelling in it. He should be realistic enough to realise that his mandate is not as pure and sacrosanct as he insists. It is, in fact, compromised in ways [words indistinct] on "people's verdict" and "popular mandate" would wash the stains which are there. Fair minded citizens would not entirely rule out Prime Minister's right to be where he is, nor would they swear by the sanctity of his mandate. On this question Mr. Nawaz Sharif would do well in his own best interest to keep an open mind. He should not freeze his position on this issue. On the contrary, the sensible policy for him would be to remain open to the possibility of an understanding

with the Opposition on this subject in the larger interests of democracy in this country.

What makes Mr. Nawaz Sharif's "rejection" of mid term general elections at this particular moment unwise is that he has himself—and quite sensibly—launched moves for an understanding with the Opposition. On the one hand he despatches his younger brother Shahbaz to establish direct contact with opposition leader Ms Benazir Bhutto, who for her part reacts favourably to this gesture, and on the other he holds forth on the general elections issue with what looks like wholly uncalled for obstinacy. Mr. Nawaz Sharif cannot be unmindful of the fact that the holding of general elections at an early date is one of the main issues on the Government-Opposition talks agenda. How can he foreclose negotiations on what is one of the most significant of issues to be negotiated? From Mr. Nawaz Sharif's point of view, the most prudent policy would be one under which he keeps himself open to negotiation on every issue of relevance to the political health of the country. For our part, we have consistently maintained that the Opposition [words indistinct] consideration when mid-term general elections are recommended as perhaps the sovereign remedy for most of the ailments that menace the political and constitutional structure of our republic.

Bomb Blast Near Hyderabad Kills Four, Injures 48

BK0107023893 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Four children were killed and 48 people were injured, five of them critically, in a bomb blast at the main Kotri Bazar near Hyderabad last night. Hospital and Edhi Welfare Foundation sources said that the injured have been admitted to the Liaquat Medical College Hospital in Hyderabad.

Sri Lanka

Foreign Minister Comments on Baghdad Airstrike

BK0107113493 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] The Cabinet spokesman, Mr. Herald Herath, said at the cabinet briefing held at Gramodaya Center, Colombo, that the Asian Development Bank for the 40-megawatt diesel plant to be set up Sapugaskande has been accepted. [sentence as heard] The decision was taken to call for international bids for the installation of a 80-megawatt diesel plant. The proposed 80-megawatt diesel plant will be installed at Kelamitissa.

Responding to a question pertaining to the recent U.S. missile attack on the Iraqi capital, Mr. Herath, who is also the foreign minister, said that in January this year he made a statement in parliament on the attacks on Iraq at the time which caused civilian casualties. Sri Lanka deeply regretted the loss of innocent lives. He said he always stated there should be no recourse to unilateral action which is not in keeping with the purpose and spirit of the UN resolutions. The minister pointed out that he wish to reiterate these sentiments again in relation to the U.S. missile attack on Sunday [27 June] which has once again resulted in tragic loss of life. Both countries, he said, are friendly nations.

'Uncertainty' Hangs Over Fate of Detained Policemen

BK3006123093 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] A cloud of uncertainty still hangs over the fate of the 33 policemen and one soldier being held by the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam]. Defense sources yesterday said it was most unlikely that the government emissary, Brigadier Ananda Weerasekhera, would go to Jaffna this week and the subject of negotiations has again reverted to ICRC [International Committee of the Red Cross].

Commenting on the LTTE reneging on its earlier pledge to release the 34 men still being detained at the Subash Hotel in Jaffna, JOC [Joint Operations Command] Chief General Hamilton Wanasinghe said that as soon as it was learnt that the Tigers had gone back on their word, he had ordered the [name of ship indistinct] carrying items asked for by the LTTE to dock at Kankesanturai Port which is under security forces control and not at Point Pedro, its earlier destination. Meanwhile, Brigadier Ananda Weerasekhera said the LTTE had made no specific demands but had indicated it wanted a larger (?consignment but) the LTTE has now wanted amounts increased [word indistinct] a list to be prepared by the Jaffna GA [government agent] in consultation with heads of departments there. The brigadier indicated that this matter would take some time to sort out and that the ICRC should be contacted regarding the status of the 34 prisoners and their relations who are still in Jaffna.

Growing Exports Result in Trade Deficit Drop

BK3006115293 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Sri Lanka's growing exports in the first two months of the year resulted in a significant drop in the country's trade deficit. Sri Lanka's gross external assets grew from 66,236 million rupees to 76,368 million rupees during the first four months of 1993, reports the Central Bank. Exports rose by 10 percent compared to the first two months of 1992, tea earnings 24 percent more, and industrial products including petroleum 21 percent more. Other significant earners were rubber, 10 percent more, and garments, 7 percent more, while agriculture products, 4 percent more. Customs data revealed that three coconut products, desicated coconut, coconut oil, and coconut fiber earned 8 percent less. Customs officials said the rise in exports and fall in imports helped Sri Lanka to reduce the trade deficit in

January and February. Last year, in these two months deficit was 1,756 million rupees. It was 843 million rupees this year, less than half. Central Bank sources said the narrowed trade deficit helped to boost Sri Lanka's external assets which rose from 66,236 million rupees in December 1992 to 76,368 million rupees by April 1993.